

546-2895-86

298cys

112 pgs

JPRS-NEA-86-110

5 SEPTEMBER 1986

Near East/South Asia Report

FBIS

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ALGIERS PAPER VIEWS NEW AGREEMENT WITH USSR

PM241815 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 25 Jun 86 p 3

[Mohamed Benchicou report: "Broad and Long-Term Cooperation"]

[Text] In signing the agreement which emerged from the 11th session of the Algerian-Soviet intergovernmental Standing Committee for economic, scientific and technical cooperation, FLN Central Committee member and Finance Minister Abdelaziz Khellef, and Konstantin Katushen member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, approved not so much a simple, formal document as the idea of stable and lasting relations resolutely directed toward the future. This was bound to be the case, since the main objective of this 11th session of the committee which, according to a senior Foreign Ministry official, "took place in excellent conditions," was to start to implement the cooperation program for the period through the year 2000 which was signed last March by President Chadli Bendjedid and Mikhail Gorbachev and which is being established as the basic framework for relations between the two sides. This view of the future, which was imprinted on this session by the decisions and guidelines which the two heads of state emphasized, was on everybody's lips and, although some plans still have to be finalized, the Algerians and Soviets emphasized the "stable, forward-looking, and lasting" nature of a cooperation which the March 1986 program ought to tend to make into an example of equitable, mutually advantageous relations respecting independence and autonomous decisionmaking.

Indeed, the Algerians note that Algerian-USSR economic relations would be increasingly characterized by the implementation of development plans on the basis of adequate intergovernmental finance, a real transfer of knowledge and technology and, in particular, an effort to integrate Algerian industry, because the contracts provide the opportunity for broad participation by Algerian enterprises in the implementation of projects drawn up by the two countries. This is probably why Konstantin Katushev specified that the "document which we have just signed marks the first stage in large-scale and long-term cooperation on a planned basis."

This concern is clear in all the agreements which the two delegations have reached. There is a concern for planning: Trade will be placed in a long-term dynamic framework which will govern trade in goods and merchandise with a view to achieving stability.

There is a concern for fairness: New finance was agreed in principle for the new projects between now and 1990--new projects in addition to the 22 projects studied by the 11th session which planning experts from the two countries will study. There is a concern to help national economic integration: A major contract for the construction of five spare-parts plants at the El Hadjar iron and steel complex was signed by the directors of the SIDER company and the TEP company (USSR) in the presence of Heavy Industry Minister Faycal Boudraa. Around 7,000 metric tons of spare parts for iron and steel equipment will be manufactured by these enterprises which, it is stressed, "will make considerable foreign currency savings by limiting imports and will ensure greater autonomy in the maintenance of the equipment of the iron and steel complex and other installation in the Annaba region."

It should be remembered that the No 2 blast furnace, No 1 steel works, the coking works, and a rolling mill in the complex were constructed by Soviet partners.

This contract between SIDER and the TEP launches a series of other agreements on very important projects laid down by the April 1985 and 1986 agreements on which discussions were "speeded up" during this 11th session of the inter-governmental committee, which also decided to expand technical and scientific cooperation.

The use of Soviet funds, however, will no longer pose practical problems because an interbank arrangement was signed between the governor of the Algerian Central Bank and the director of the USSR Foreign Trade Bank--an arrangement which provided a nice conclusion to a meeting which was decidedly unlike previous ones.

/8309

CSO: 4500/181

DAILY ANTICIPATES HASSAN'S POST-IFRANE MOVES

LD061240 Algiers APS in English 1133 GMT 6 Aug 86

[Text] Algiers, Aug 8 (APS)--King Hassan will certainly endeavour to convince Arab newsmen of the need to begin talks with Israel regardless of its stand on the Palestinian issue, the national daily AL-SHA'B editorialized commenting the press conference the king is to convene on Thursday.

Hassan II will do its [words indistinct] his public encounter with the Israeli prime minister. He will try to lull journalists into believing that his initiative is in line with the Arab peace plan known as the Fes plan. He will use the news conference as a rostrum to speak ideas of peaceful coexistence with Israel and pave the way for further steps by Morocco to nudge alone toward Israel, the daily added. In reality the daily went on, the Ifrane meeting is another step toward "Camp David Agreements" that have two goals:

The first is to get Arabs to renounce the Palestinian cause as a political issue which amounts to renouncing Palestine and the Palestinian people's holy cause.

The second goal is the recognition of Israel by Arabs and the establishment of normal relations with it at the expense of the Palestinian people.

In fact it is the bleak situation in the Arab world which emboldened the Moroccan king to meet the Israeli minister, but what is worse is that other Arab leaders may follow in his footsteps if the Arab nation doesn't move quickly to improve the situation, [words indistinct] will occur unavoidably the daily concluded.

/8309

CSO: 4500/181

COMMENTARY VIEWS SETTING UP MAGHREB ASSEMBLY

LD201526 Algiers APS in English 1420 GMT 20 Jul 86

[Text] Algiers, 20 Jul (APS)--The French language national daily--EL MOUDJAHID--devoted its editorial today to the "idea" formulated in June 27th by the Moroccan king about the setting up of a consultative Maghrebin assembly.

Under the headline "The Maghrebin Ideal Put to the Test of Ideas" the commentator wrote "this idea about which Moroccan fellow newsmen are very enthusiastic is not a new initiative whose scope escapes to one partner or other insensitive to the Maghrebin ideals. This very idea, nearly in the same terms in which it has been recently put forward is contained in the recommendation of the conference held in Tanger in 1958 and reasserted on the occasion of the commemorative meetings in Tunis and in Algiers, it is not the idea which is new but the way it is used," EL MOUDJAHID noted.

President Chadli has out of faithfulness to the spirit of Tanger raised this question in the context of the inter-Maghrebin prospects he has personally outlined in his activities early in 1983. One wonders about the goals sought through this spectacular sponsoring of the idea brought out of the frame of consensus of the four founding parties of the Tanger conference to be turned into a false topical news event.

However, and for all that good ideas would only serve the big Maghrebin undertaking, it was important for the F.L.N. Party, the P.S.D. and the U.S.F.P. to voice their resolve to work forward the promotion of a consultative Maghrebin assembly in line with the Tanger recommendations it was also important to decide in Algiers, recently at the commemorative meeting to organize themselves to discuss about the construction of the Maghreb within a flexible and regular framework because whatever the divergences on the Western Sahara conflict and the diversity of sensitivities on other problems a frank and responsible dialogue is not superfluous, the daily underscored.

/8309

CSO: 4500/181

ALGERIA

BRIEFS

ALGERIAN-MALTESE TRADE REPORT--The joint Algerian-Maltese commission is finishing its third session in Valletta. A report was signed by Commerce Minister Mostefa and (?trigna), his Maltese counterpart. The two sides are to look for a balance in their exchanges. Algeria will export quite substantial amounts of refined oil products to Malta as of 1987, and later crude oil. Algeria also will take an active part in a number of joint companies. There is to be an Algerian-Maltese meeting in October to negotiate and conclude supply contracts between the SONATRACH and Enemalta companies. Malta is prepared to import a number of Algerian goods and will attend the September Algiers fair to negotiate contracts for their import. They intend to setup a subcontracting program in Malta for ready-made clothing for the Algerian market and for third countries. [Summary] [Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 26 Jul 86 LD] /8309

CSO: 4500/181

MAURITANIA

BRIEFS

HEALTH AGREEMENT WITH PRC--Lieutenant Colonel Ndiaye Kane, minister of health and social affairs, and the Chinese ambassador to Mauritania, this morning signed an agreement under which the PRC will send a medical team to Mauritania. Present at the ceremony were the permanent secretary of the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, and the director of [words indistinct]. The minister praised the health cooperation between China and Mauritania which he said was very effective and suitable. The minister expressed satisfaction with the spirit of sacrifice and devotion of the Chinese technicians, which is a testimony of the solid ties between our peoples. He praised the good work of the Chinese team which is leaving the country, and said he was convinced that the new team [words indistinct]. On his part, the Chinese diplomat noted that the present protocol agreement is a positive contribution to the mission assigned to him in Mauritania--(?development) of the health sector and strengthening of Chinese-Mauritanian friendship. He expressed the hope that cooperation between the two countries will be further strengthened in the interest of the two peoples. [Text] [Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 22 Jul 86] /8309

OMVS MINISTERIAL MEETING OPENS--The 24th session of the OMVS [Senegal River Development Organization] Council of Ministers opened this morning in Nouakchott under the chairmanship of Mr Samba Yella Diop, the Senegalese minister of water resources. Participating in the session are Mr Sidi Cheikh Ould Abdellahi, the minister of water resources and energy, and [name indistinct], the secretary of state for budget for Mauritania; Mr Djibril Diallo, minister of state for industrial development, and Mr Dianka Kaba Diakite, the minister of finance and economy for the Republic of Mali, and Mr Famara Ibrahim Sagna, the Senegalese minister of rural development. The OMVS ministerial council session will examine during the next 3 days, bills on terms of reference and additional studies on the [word indistinct] project of transmission of power produced by the Manantali [dam], the exploitation of the Diama Dam, the distribution of [word indistinct] in the Senegal River, and the finances of the organization. [Excerpts] [Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 28 Jul 86] /8309

PRC FARMLAND PROJECT NOTED--Rural Development Minister Messmoud Ould Belkheir returned to the capital this morning from Rosso where he yesterday presided over official reception ceremony concerning rehabilitated farmland in accordance with an agreement signed between the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the PRC in May 1985. Thus, 324 hectares of land will be immediately distributed to farmers during the current season while 400 other hectares will be prepared and distributed during the next season. [Excerpt] [Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 3 Aug 86] /8309

TAYA MEETS MOROCCAN OFFICIAL--Colonel Maayouia Sidi Ould Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of the state, received Moroccan Commerce and Industry Minister Tahar Masmoudi this morning. The Moroccan minister is paying a visit to our country at the head of an important delegation. Following the meeting, which was attended by Lieutenant Colonel Brahim Alioune N'diaye, military Committee for National Salvation member and minister of commerce and transportation, the Moroccan minister informed the national press that he had conveyed greetings to the head of state from his brother and friend His Majesty King Hassan II, the Moroccan Monarch. He added that his visit to our country has been successful and will contribute to the development of bilateral cooperation. [words indistinct] The Moroccan Minister concluded by expressing his satisfaction at the results of his meeting with the head of state. In this respect Lt Col Brahim Alioune N'diaye, military committee for national salvation member and minister of commerce and transportation, signed an agreement in the sphere of trade and tariffs with the Moroccan commerce and trade minister this morning. [Excerpts] [Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 4 Aug 86] /8309

MOROCCAN TRADE MINISTER SIGNS AGREEMENT--The relations between Morocco and Mauritania are doing well. This assessment was made following the working visit which Tahar Masmoudi, the Moroccan minister of commerce, industry, and tourism, has just completed in Nouakchott at the head of an important delegation. He left Nouakchott yesterday afternoon after signing with his Mauritanian counterpart an agreement on trade and customs matters which will enable the two countries to facilitate the operations of [words indistinct]. In a statement made shortly before his departure, Mr Masmoudi expressed satisfaction over the outcome of the visit and said he was very impressed by the socio-economic achievements of our country. During his visit to our country, the Moroccan minister of commerce, industry, and tourism was received by the head of state, Maaouyia Sid 'Ahmed Ould Taya. [Text] [Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 5 Aug 86] /8309

CSO: 4500/181

GOVERNMENT ISSUES BAN ON MEAT EXPORTS

Khartoum SUDAN TIMES in English 21 Jul 86 pp 1, 8

[Text]

The Minister of Commerce Dr. Mohamed Yousif Abu Harira has issued an order banning the export of sheep and cows - Al Sahafa daily reported yesterday.

The order implies the cancellation and immediate return of all licences already issued by the Ministry of Commerce for exporting sheep and cow meat.

The Minister also issued another order confiscating all the sheep and cow stock presently owned by exporters. The exporters will receive compensations according to the export price after deducting transportation expenses.

A committee has already been formed to undertake the execution of these orders and it is composed of representatives from the Khartoum Municipality, the Central Intelligence, the Cattle and Meat Marketing Corporation, the Khartoum Police headquarters, the Customs Office and the Ministries of Commerce and Finance.

Dr. Abu Harira stated that the new policy will not stop completely export of meat and cattle, especially to friendly countries, but will regulate it.

Dr. Abu Harira said that merchants who claim that they might suffer damages because of previous commitments abroad are instructed to immediately appeal to the Ministry in order to have their cases studied.

/9274
CSO: 4500/187

MINISTER OF COMMERCE INVESTIGATES CATTLE SMUGGLING

Khartoum SUDAN TIMES in English 27 Jul 86 p 2

[Text]

The Ministry of Commerce has set up a number of committees to investigate the smuggling of cattle abroad. Concerned authorities have discovered that some cattle exporters used to open letters of credit for cattle exports without paying taxes on those exports to the state.

Commerce Minister Mohamed Yousif Abu Harira further told Asshafa that investigations would soon unveil the secrets of the smuggling operations.

Speaking to the press following a meeting he held with the Exporters Union, he said the ban on cattle exports also includes meat adding that the 40,000 heads of cattle already kept at Kaduna and Port Sudan before the ban would be exported in two weeks only and after that the ban would be effective.

He said cattle exporters should from now onwards pay U.S dollars 115 per head of cattle they export instead of the U.S dollars 100 they used to pay.

The Minister said the committees would be set up to re-examine the cattle exportation issue to determine clear principles that maintain interests of exporters and the state.

He urged cattle exporters to explain their outstanding commitments abroad for which letters of credit had already been opened.

Also speaking to Assahafa

the Chairman of the Union Mohamed El Deaita, said they were against any ban on exports and that their real job is to promote Sudanese exports that fetch money and not just figures.

He said his meeting with the Commerce Minister was positive and had reached satisfactory solutions and said the Minister had agreed with the need to lay down correct controls that conserve national resources and exporters rights and encourage cattle breeders.

He said the measure taken by the Minister was just and attributed the fancy for cattle smuggling to the double price system fixed for the Dollar.

While exporters earn 290 piasters for the Dollar, the expatriate is paid 400 piasters, he explained.

He said the ban on cattle exports might reduce local consumer prices but it is sure to discourage cattle breeders.

GOVERNMENT CALLED UPON TO FIGHT SMUGGLING

Khartoum SUDAN TIMES in English 20 Jul 86 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text]

Reports around the country speak of widespread occurrence of smuggling and hoarding of essential goods. For sometime now, smuggling and hoarding have been treated as if they were any ordinary activity in the market place. They have bred black marketeering and created a distorted economic picture in the country. Smuggling and hoarding make life much harder for the ordinary citizen than it really needs to be. Recent reports of quantities and the worth of smuggled goods have been quoted in multi-millions of pounds. These are serious problems for a weak and growing economy like ours.

And as if these problems caused to our economy by smuggling were not enough, the smugglers have now set themselves up in the capital here, and other economically strategic areas of the country, like Port Sudan and the Red Sea coast, as well as along our extensive nine - nations borders, they have set themselves up as an armed force, ready to challenge the state. They want to cow the state law enforcing machinery, so that they can continue to practice their crime of smuggling and hoarding without being apprehended by the law. The recent killing of two police officers on duty in Swakin, by the smugglers, is just one latest ominous occurrence in a long practice of intimidation, evasion, and even sometime, bribery of security officers.

Smuggling of goods has been an old crime which besets weak economies and weakens them even further. It makes market mechanism difficult to check and control. Smuggled goods come into the market or go out of it unchecked, and that further makes pricing impossible. How do you price something you do not know that it even exists? what these smuggled in and smuggled out goods do, is to be the invisible hand which manipulates the supply and demand and the prices in the market, by flooding the market with certain

commodities of their interest and at the price of their choosing and keeping out of the market, by hoarding, commodities they are not yet ready to do business in. This way, the market responds to their whims. More seriously, smuggling is a crippling, or even a deadly disease for an economy as weak and as dependent on consumers commodity trade as ours.

Smuggling is recognized worldwide as an organized crime which governments deal with by taking all kinds of measures to deter it. For Sudan, these measures, which must combine strong legal and policing policies, will have to be sufficiently harsh to be a real deterrent against this vicious and now deadly crime.

It is important, therefore, that the government takes very strong legal and policing measures. There is, we think, a need for a new and stronger legislation which should treat smuggling itself, as a capital crime carrying capital punishment and to punish it as such. At present, only murders arising from the acts of smuggling are treated as a capital offense. Smuggling of goods is a murder of our economy which, given our economic circumstances, could lead to a collective murder of all of us - speaking relatively. Furthermore, the government should consider declaring an out war against this crime of smuggling. A special anti-Smuggling police squad should be set up, especially trained and stationed at economically strategic locations like Port Sudan and the Red Sea coast as a whole, if need be, this force should be reinforced with a unit from the army.

State must appear stronger than the crime, or else the state will be encouraging crime.

It is clear that these people - the smugglers are fighting for their lives and for their economic survival. As the Swakin killing of the two police officers have indicated, the strength of both their will to fight and their force should not be underestimated. Fighting smuggling, must therefore be as important and as high up on the government economic priority as anything else they are considering to do to correct the economic ills of the country.

/9274

CSO: 4500/186

EFFORTS TO PURGE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES REPORTED

Numayri Supporters To Be Purged

Khartoum SUDAN TIMES in English 18 Jul 86 p 2

[Text] The government has a list of henchmen of the defunct Nimeiri regime who are trying in vain to undermine Democratic rule and obstruct work of the government, Information Minister and Government Spokesman Mohamed Tawfik told Al Sahafa.

He said the government has a list of employees in the Public Service and the media who cooperated with the defunct state security and that a list of them would be presented to the Parliament to approve their dismissal.

It appears that some government employees have connections with the deposed Nimeiri and his associates, he said.

Removal of 'Corrupt Elements' Planned

Khartoum SUDAN TIMES in English 28 Jul 86 p 1

[Text] A well placed government source has told Al Siyasa that intensive efforts are being exerted to purge the civil service of corrupt elements who obstruct reform and conceal information from senior officials.

He indicated that some elements in the public service still pursue their personal interest and pay no attention to the public.

Purges would not be carried out until after all incriminating evidences are obtained, he said and disclosed that the government had obtained all the information it requires about corrupt elements.

/9274

CSO: 4500/183

GOALS OF NATIONAL PEACE, DEVELOPMENT FRONT DISCUSSED

Khartoum SUDAN TIMES in English 25 Jul 86 p 3

[Article by Alfred Logume Taban]

[Text]

As the civil war in the South escalates with the recent fighting around Juba, more and more Sudanese are adding their voices to the call for an end to the war.

One of the latest groups to be formed to work towards that goal is the National Peace and Development Front (NPDF).

The Front which was formed last month (June) says it is time the war is ended. "We see that the country is falling apart. There are fightings and killings which many people in Sudan are suffering from", said Phillip Pedak Lieth, the Chairman of the Front.

Phillip Pedak Lieth is a former member of Parliament in Juba and a founder member of Anyanya 1.

He also helped to reorganise Anyanya II in 1975. The movement says the country's problems cannot be solved by war and its immediate task now is to change the mentality of war

to that of peace.

The government of today and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), NPDF says, have many things in common, and thus it does not see why they cannot agree. "Both were opposed to the dictatorial regime of Nimeiri. Both are for the Unity of Sudan and are concerned about the human rights of the Sudanese people which were violated by the defunct May Regime and both want the reintroduction of Democracy which was also denied to the Sudanese people by Nimeiri". Lieth told Sudan Times.

The SPLA, the NPDF boss said was opposed to the former Transitional Military Council (TMC) and wanted a government elected by the people and for the people which has now happened.

"We believe the time has now come for dialogue and peace. Our task is therefore to work relentlessly to achieve peace in all parts of the country. The Front will promote and encourage the continuation of dialogue between the warring people

that is the SPLA and the government." Lieth said adding that the peace offensive must be pursued on all fronts and help unlisted from all Muslim, Christian, Arab and African leaders who are keen to see peace return to Sudan and national unity rebuilt.

The Front has already formed a 10 men preliminary executive committee consisting of people from all parts of the country and hopes to begin contacting soon all the political parties.

"We want them to show us whatever programme they have for solving the problem", Lieth said. The non partisan Front then hopes to talk to the government, the masses and the SPLA.

NPDF however has its own views on some of the burning issues in the country. The movement is for the Kokadam Declaration. "The Front firmly supports and highly appreciates the peace initiative taken by the Alliance for National Salvation to find a permanent remedy to the various problems facing our nation. The Kokadam initiative is a healthy and nationalistic step towards solving Sudanese problems. It deserves praises and encouragement from all our citizens

who are bent to peace", the NPDF leader says.

On September Laws, Lieth says these laws are Nimeiri's and should have gone with their owner. "We expect the present government to remove them", he says.

On military protocols with other countries, NPDF believes that they should be in the interest of the Sudanese people. "The two military agreements between Sudan and Libya and Egypt were protocols that the government of the day signed without being authorised to do so. Although they have been signed we expect the people to say in a referendum or so whether they like them or not", said Lieth.

On the ideal administration for Southern Sudan, the NPDF's leader says the three Regions should continue until the issue is decided in the Constitutional Conference. Lieth had some harsh words for some of those people who are calling for a return to one South. "If the South is to be united, it cannot be done so by the people who are now loudly calling for that because they were the very cause of the redivision. The Equatorians will not listen to them. The call must be made by fresh people whose images are not tainted", Lieth said.

NASC DELEGATE DISCUSSES PEACE PROCESS

Khartoum SUDAN TIMES in English 28 Jul 86 p 3

[Text] Despite the recent increase in the level of fighting in the country, the peace process continues. The National Alliance for National Salvation of the Country (NASC) which has been in the forefront in the peace offensive recently sent a delegation to Addis Ababa to talk things over with the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) and its armed wing the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA). The delegation was headed by Dr. Taisir Mohamed Ahmed, a Political Science Lecturer at the University of Khartoum. Reporter Gasim Mekki El Bahi met Dr. Ahmed and asked him how far the peace process had gone.

How Far Had the Peace Process Gone?

Question: Has the Government policy statement addressed itself sufficiently to the content of the Kokadam Declaration?

Answer: The Government did address itself to most of the points, but it did so in an implicit way. There are certain ambiguities in the policies being pursued by the government, and particularly the Umma Party. The present challenge is to make explicit what is now being implicitly implied.

This is the only way to create a conducive atmosphere for the Constitutional Conference. On the other hand, if there is no clarification to these ambiguous references to the points in the declaration, then one can not talk about the creation of a conducive atmosphere and any talk about the Constitutional Conference would be wishful thinking. Some people claim that there are specific parties for the Conference, but to me the Constitutional Conference should include not so much those parties in the government but rather those outside it. By this I mean the SPLM/SPLA and the Islamic Front. The real challenge is to have all political parties in the country participating in the Conference without any exception. One major obstacle to holding of the talks is the fact that some political groups think of the Conference as a meeting to reconcile those who have resorted to armed struggle, namely the SPLM/SPLA and those who are committed to a peaceful political struggle. This is a misleading and a dangerous misconception, because the purpose of the Conference is not accommodation of a certain faction but it is a commitment to sit together and reconsider the economic, political and social structures that existed since Independence as these structures have failed to satisfy the aspirations of our people.

Question: What is the responsibility of the Alliance in the joint SPLM/Alliance Peace Committee?

The task is to seek clarification of some points in the government policies especially those concerning the creation of a conducive atmosphere for talks. Also to contact the other political parties which are not a party to the Kokadam Declaration for example the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) in

order to elicit from them their ideas about the dialogue and peace process. We do not consider the work of the Liaison Committee (Peace Committee) to be confined to the members of the Alliance alone because of the fact that the responsibility of reaching peace and stability in our country concerns every one. We believe that all political forces are interested in ending the conflict and putting an end to destruction. The differences that exist are essentially differences in tactics. With this concept the Liaison Committee works to bring about a national consensus. At the same time, we are committed to the continuation of dialogue. We believe that there is no other alternative to the peaceful solution of the conflict because there will be no winners. In this war that is going on there will be only losers, all of us are losers. I am happy to say this view is also shared by the SPLM/SPLA.

Where Does DUP Stand?

Question: Do you think the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) is also responsible for the ambiguous reference by the government to the Kokadam Declaration that you have just mentioned?

Answer: I am not too sure that the Democratic Unionist Party is solely responsible for the ambiguities in the government statement because there are other parties which are not members of the Alliance. On behalf of the Liaison Committee, I have maintained a continuous contact with the Democratic

Unionist Party since my first mission in September 1985. After the freezing of the Democratic Unionist Party membership in the Alliance I continued meeting with them. I never stopped contacting the Democratic Unionist Party even after Kokadam or when I was asked by the Alliance to accompany the Umma delegation in April, and up to the present time. The problem, I believe, lies with the internal balances and structures within the Democratic Unionist Party. Indeed the Democratic Unionist Party's position vis-a-vis Kokadam declaration, the Constitutional Conference or the peace process with the SPLM/SPLA is the most ambiguous, I honestly cannot understand the position of the Democratic Unionist Party particularly as I have pointed out they have been fully briefed about our efforts and contacts.

Question: The Prime Minister's scheduled visit to the Soviet Union is viewed in some quarters as an official move to starve the SPLM/SPLA of foreign support. What do you say to that?

Answer: No, not at all, for several reasons. First of all, the visit of the Prime Minister was scheduled since the Transitional Government period, but Dr. Gizouli the former Prime Minister had failed to honour it. The new Prime Minister found the invitation still lying on the Prime Minister's desk when he was sworn in. Secondly, we view it as part of the efforts to restructure our foreign policy after the one-sided dependency of the Nimeiri clique. The

visit is in harmony with the declared intention of the government to pursue a non-aligned policy and to maintain good relations with the two Super Powers. Thirdly and most important for us, the Umma Party is a member of the Alliance and it maintains a high-level representation in the Liaison Committee. In other words, the Umma Party is in direct contact with the SPLM/SPLA. I see no reason why the Party should like to undermine this relationship by trying to starve it of any support.

PROBLEM OF URBAN REFUGEES IN KHARTOUM DISCUSSED

Khartoum SUDAN TIMES in English 24 Jul 86 p 4

[Text]

Although not quite so spectacular as massive influxes of refugees, the phenomenon is nevertheless one to be reckoned with, since 200,000 refugees are said to have settled spontaneously in Port Sudan, Kassala, Gedaref and Khartoum. Statistics are few and far between, but it is estimated that there are 50,000 of them in the Sudanese capital, in the quarters of Al Sahafa, Khartoum III, Gerief and Deims. Still poorly integrated and often vulnerable, they live in a world of their own. When faced with the stark realities of life, they often deliberately cut themselves off, as if just "passing through".

Their names are Seife, Shewaye, Tesfalede, Amanuel, Livingstone or Adriss. Most of them are aged between 20 and 30 years. Although the vast majority are Ethiopians, there are also some Ugandans and Zaireans. The features they have in common are a strong individualistic streak, a refusal to accept the crowded conditions in the camps, the need to choose their neighbours, their type of housing and the pace of their lives. They have thus become urban refugees since, originally town-dwellers, they were unable to adjust to life in rural areas. "I prefer living in Khartoum to a reception centre. The huts in the camps don't belong to us, whereas here I feel more as though I'm the master of my own house", said Temesgon, who spent seven months at Um Rakoba.

Like almost all the refugees who

live in Khartoum, he shares his modest house with a group of other Ethiopians. Circumstances compel them to live in communities - often ten strong - sharing the rent, doing the household chores together, and those with jobs meeting the needs of those who haven't found any work. They also provide board and lodging for new arrivals. Their solidarity acts as a bulwark against the indifference they meet with from the community outside.

Many of them admit that they did not necessarily follow the legal procedure when they came to Khartoum. The Sudanese Government in fact restricts refugees' movements, and a valid reason must be given - medical treatment, family reunion, ongoing resettlement or repatriation procedures - in order to obtain a travel permit. Furthermore, according to current regulations, only refugees who are self-sufficient are permitted to live in the Sudanese capital. Material assistance is guaranteed only in the camps. Elsewhere refugees have to use their initiative and rely on their own resources.

Yet the city exerts a magical fascination over people. Often encouraged by the presence of a friend or a member of their family in Khartoum who can provide them with somewhere to stay, refugees "try their luck". They find refuge in the anonymity offered by the city and use their resourcefulness to improve their lot.

"I didn't come to Khartoum to get rich", explains Seife. "You need a lot of courage and have to moderate your sense of dignity. So I forgot I had completed my secondary schooling, and started out washing cars and unloading lorries to survive." Since then, by struggling against adversity, he has become a radio operator for a large transport company. For him this promotion is almost akin to social recognition.

Although in theory refugees enjoy the same rights on the job market as Sudanese, even in the public services, with the exception of key sectors, they are able to find very few openings which match their qualifications – if they have any, that is. And then they have often lost their diplomas and certificates during their flight, or are unable to speak Arabic, which hampers the success of their efforts to find work. In addition, the recession has severely hit Sudanese nationals themselves, and competition for jobs is fierce. A large majority of refugees therefore do odd jobs, especially in the services sector.

"It's true that urban refugees place a strain on the socio-economic environment", emphasizes Hassan Attiya, the Sudanese Commissioner for Refugees. "And nationals are beginning to show signs of resentment towards them." But, he adds, "the impact may also be positive, since many refugees who have been trained as technicians are replacing the skilled Sudanese who have left to work in the Gulf countries". In recent years Khartoum has on occasion been the scene of police raids on the very large number of homeless unemployed. But as Hassan Attiya says: "These raids are not specifically aimed at refugees. The operations concern all those who come to Khartoum without permits. If a refugee is not in possession of an identity card certifying his right to live in Khartoum, he may be sent back to one of the camps, just as a Sudanese in the

same situation may be sent back to his home village."

Another major attraction for refugees is the prospect of possible resettlement in a third country. Although at present these programmes only apply in individual cases or on the basis of limited quotas, each refugee hopes, and seems to believe, that he will be the lucky one. For many it will never be more than an illusion, but they use all the means at their disposal to force the hand of fate, embarking on endless administrative formalities and leaving no stone unturned.

Many refugees delude themselves that they have a chance of being resettled – which attracts large numbers of them to Khartoum, even though for the whole of Sudan the United States resettles only 1,500 refugees and Canada about another 500 per year.

At Khartoum a counselling service run by UNHCR plays an advisory role in the fields of medical assistance, education and job placement. In the first six months of 1985 the number of beneficiaries totalled more than 3,000. Only refugees who have proper permits to live in Khartoum are entitled to use the counselling service. As of 1 January 1986, this service will be taken over by the Sudanese Commission for Refugees. Some voluntary organizations such as the Sudan Council of Churches, the International Rescue Committee, the YMCA and Sudanaid are still keeping their doors open to urban refugees. They provide reception services or implement micro-projects.

But the city refugees also often have to contend with themselves, with the culture shock and their disillusionment. They feel as if they are in transit and sometimes live for several months in a state of limbo. "After a year here", says Tesfaleidet, "I still feel as though I'm a guest. And I'm more a spectator than a actor".

/9274
CSO: 4500/187

DAILY LIFE IN SOUTH DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE

Khartoum SUDAN TIMES in English 3 Jul 86 p 6

[Text]

Whilst calls for dialogue, continue in the north, the war in the south continues to disrupt the daily life of every citizen. For those living in the areas of fighting, death, looting, raping, burning of houses and other property have become the order of the day. The possibility of medical treatment for war related injuries is almost non-existent.

Citizens have left their homes to hide in the bush, or have fled to safer areas. It has been impossible for people to grow their food, and cattle have been either lost in the flight or stolen. Travel by road is dangerous in many areas, with roads mined by the army or the SPLA. Ambushes are common. UNHCR in Ethiopia has registered 85,000 Sudanese as refugees. The government policy of arming civilian tribespeople has increased the number of guns in use in the south, at the same time the instances of armed banditry have increased dramatically. The population of Juba town has been swelled by displaced people, food supplies are scanty, and a bag of dura may fetch Ls. 270. Aid agencies have agreed to airlift in food, but stress that

this is a short term emergency response to ease the crisis, and cannot be maintained on a long term basis.

Since fighting began in 1983, citizens in Khartoum have been opening their homes to relatives from the south who cannot stay in their own areas. Houses that were originally rented for one family, may now be occupied by three or four. With employment difficult to find, a heavy financial burden is added to the problem of overcrowding. The displaced people bring few possessions with them. Students may find no way to continue their education. Those who had reasonable employment during peacetime in the south may find themselves washing cars, labouring on building sites or selling cigarettes on the street.

In Upper Nile Region, the critical situation in Malakal has improved since the arrival of relief supplies by barge in February. The population of Malakal has increased from 50,000 to 80,000, but the town is quiet in comparison to the months last year when citizens heard gunfire every night, and were robbed in their homes by armed bandits.

Many of the new arrivals in Malakal came from Melut, where the population has decreased from 20,000 to 4,000. Other Melut residents fled to Renk, where an outbreak of measles has recently been reported.

The Commissioner for Upper Nile has admitted that 30,000 people in Maban are suffering hardship as a result of food shortages. Rains have begun in this area, but cultivation is risky, as fighting is reported to have accelerated, and villages have been burned to the ground.

In Bahr El Ghazal, citizens are still reeling at the news of the death of the much respected Bishop John Malou of Wau. The Bishop died when the army helicopter in which he and Brigadier Martin Makur travelling was shot down at Rumbek. Aid worker Mark Fletcher was killed in the same incident.

Citizens who took refuge in Wau from the fighting in other areas are now experiencing difficulties leaving that town. Yirol and Rumbek are deserted, residents have left area completely, or have withdrawn from the towns for action against the policy of

burning surrounding compounds. The SPLA once more claims control of Rumbek - an area which was reportedly bombed in March by government forces. In the Aweil/abeyei area, serious disruption has come from both the SPLA activities in the area and the retaliatory government policy of burning villages. Furthermore, in a letter sent to the transitional government in January, town councillors spoke with horror of the activities in the area of armed Misseriya tribesmen, whom they claimed were receiving arms from the government. The councillors spoke of killing and raping of civilians, looting of property and cattle, and in some cases, hostages were taken. Cattle rustling continues until now, and some owners have gone to Muglad in an attempt to recover their stolen property. Road travel is difficult in the area - yet it is estimated that around 25,000 people have fled to southern Darfur. Large numbers of people in Aweil have been made homeless by the village burning policy, yet displaced people continue to crowd the town. A survey by an aid agency found that thirty five per cent of the children under five in Aweil are seriously malnourished - the effects of malnutrition will inflict permanent damage on the lives of these small citizens. Abeyei plays host to an extra 6000 people from surrounding villages.

Equatoria region was once relatively untouched by the fighting, but the situation has changed dramatically in recent months. In Mundri, Maridi and Amadi areas, 70,000 to 80,000 people have arrived from Rumbek and

Yirol. Rains have failed in the Maridi area, so food shortages can be expected even for the settled population. Safe water sources are inadequate, with only two or three of the twenty bore holes in the area actually in service. In Terekeka, many of the tribespeople have been armed, following SPLA incursions into the area last year. The population includes those who have fled from the fighting further north - some people have made their way to Juba town, where they have little chance of finding work, and may be reduced to begging. Recent arrivals in Juba say that Terekeka is now under SPLA control.

Eastern Equatoria is virtually closed to all traffic. The prevailing insecurity has meant that groups of armed bandits, who attacked 16 of the 17 Ugandan refugee settlements in the area in April and May were able to operate without interference. Many of the attackers may have been in the new wave of Ugandan refugees who crossed into Sudan earlier this year, presumably bringing their arms with them. Once again, homes were destroyed, property looted, killing and raping were common. UNHCR in Uganda registered 75,000 people, both Ugandans and Sudanese, who fled from the insecurity in eastern Equatoria. Others found their way to Juba, where an emergency transit camp was set up on the Juba/Yei road. Lorries carrying supplies from Kenya and Uganda are advised not to travel on the Juba/Nimule road without an army escort, following incidents in which trucks have been ambushed by bandits or the SPLA.

But despite army protection,

eight Kenyan lorry drivers were killed when part of an eighty lorry convoy was ambushed on that road around June 3rd/4th. Those lorries which did make it to Juba were carrying commercial supplies, not relief food. Following SPLA activity in the Torit area, a long established aid agency has finally been forced to evacuate. Eastern Kapoeta and Southern Jonglei are described as essentially war zones. No word has been received from civilians in the garrison town of Bor, since an SPLA report that bodies of civilians were found floating in the river.

Juba cannot expect regular supplies via Nimule, and following SPLA activities on the western bank in the towns of Kagwada, Lainya, Lui, and nearby refugee settlements, the Yei/Juba road has been closed from time to time. It is reported that 1000 SPLA soldiers are operating in the area, but whether or not they are intending to stay, or if they are making their way to join forces in Bahr El Ghaxal is unclear.

Citizens in Juba are faced by prices that rise daily, food scarcity, loss of jobs following the evacuation of many aid agencies, increased pressure with the influx of displaced people from Terekeka and the east bank. There has been no regular electricity supply since February, and water may only be available from the town supply every three or four days. Khartoum residents would refuse to buy the bread on sale in the town, but Juba people count themselves lucky to find it. The increased population has put pressure on the already inadequate health

services, poor water quality adds to the problems : a jerrican of water costs Ls. a single candle is 75 pt. There is little chance of re-employment for those who find themselves without jobs, the numbers of beggars is on the increase, and it is not uncommon to see the poorest people picking leaves from the sides of the road to make their meals. The food aid that is being airlifted into Juba in the coming days is earmarked for the displaced people, and will bring no relief to Juba residents who cannot cope with the rising prices. Reports have been received of groups of 100 or more people congregating outside the premises of agencies that they erroneously believe are about to start distributing food. Citizens rely on hearsay and rumour in the absence of adequate official reports on the situation. Conflicting stories circulate as to the nature of SPLA attacks - some say that villagers are subjected to violent treatment, others say that the SPLA simply demand food, then retreat. In different instances either story may be true.

Information in this report comes from a variety of reliable sources, but figures should be treated as estimates only. But even allowing for some exaggeration or distortion, the picture of life in Southern Sudan in 1986 is clear. Although relief supplies may reach some of the areas mentioned, supply is erratic and insufficient. Insecurity prevents and development work that could bring the area up to the standard of other parts of the country. Citizens live in a precarious and dangerous situation of violence, panic, disruption to daily life, health services and education.

BRIEFS

TRADE UNION DEMANDS REFORMS—The Trade Union in the National Company for Land Transport has reported to the Defence Minister on short-comings in the company and urged him to set up a fact finding committee to probe into the activities of the firm. The Trade Union has also asked for financial support to be given to the company and for the unification of the Mercedes and Pigaso bus administrations. They also said that the company should boost its fleet with new buses. The Union has also demanded the replacement of the company's military administrators with qualified cadres in addition to the improvement of the terms and conditions of service of employees and called for an end to the reinstatement of dismissed employees. [Text] [Khartoum SUDAN TIMES in English 28 Jul 86 p 8] /9274

NEW PARLIAMENT'S STRUCTURE CRITICIZED—The Islamic Front has rejected the Prime Minister's suggestion to call them the rightest opposition saying it was not for the Prime Minister to choose a name for them.

"The Prime Minister has no right to give us the name he likes... We have called ourselves the Islamic opposition block in Parliament and our leader should consequently become leader of the opposition", said MP Mohamed Yousif Mohamed. Any other block should be called a Parliamentary group not withstanding its position in the government, he added. Speaking to Al Ayam, Mohamed said the number of Parliamentary committees to be formed should not exceed seven or eight. He criticised what he called the government tendency to give committee members the status of state Ministers adding that they should be given only a few privileges. Committee Chairmen should be given a little more allocation than those given to other members, Mohamed said. [Text] [Khartoum SUDAN TIMES in English 28 Jul 86 p 8] /9274

TIGHT MEASURES IMPOSED ON SUGAR QUOTAS—Industry Minister Sayed Mubarak El Mahdi has disclosed that 60% of the sugar allocated for factories was discovered to have been sold in the black market instead of being used in the concerned factories. Accordingly, he told Al Ayam, that the factories quotas for July were cut by 50% to conform with real demand. He said an agreement was reached with factory owners to refund the value of sugar they did not actually use and that sums restored according to this arrangement have so far reached LS. 1.5 million. The Minister said tighter measures would be taken to control the behaviour of factory owners in this regard. [Text] [Khartoum SUDAN TIMES in English 24 Jul 86 p 2] /9274

GOVERNMENT ENDS UNLICENSED RADIO USE--The Government is to tighten control over the use of wireless and radio communications in the country. This has been disclosed by an authoritative source at the Internal Security Organ of the state. The sources said that organisations using wireless and radio long distance communications system have been asked to renew their operation licences for these sets and immediately to pay the required licence fees. Any organisation which has not renewed its licence or has not been issued proper operation licence should stop using them forthwith or face legal consequences. Licences are obtainable at the Telecommunications authority. [Text] [Khartoum SUDAN TIMES in English 18 Jul 86 p 1] /9274

CSO: 4500/185

EVENTS SURROUNDING MZALI'S DISMISSAL DISCUSSED

London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 21 Jul 86 p 15-17

[Text] It is still difficult to predict what developments may happen because President Bourguiba's decisions have shuffled the cards several times, especially during the last two decades, beginning with the firing of Ahmed Ben Salah in 1969, when he was the minister in whom President Bourguiba renewed his trust several times before he threw him in prison, the dismissal of his right-hand assistant Bahi Ladgham, and his replacement with Hedi Nouira, and ending with the dismissal of Mohamed Mzali from government leadership on 8 July, and his replacement with former Finance and Economy Minister Rachid Sfar. This was two weeks after the Tunisian president announced during the 12th convention of the ruling Dustur party that Mohamed Mzali was worthy of his trust, then and in the future.

Yet those who follow Tunisian affairs had been expecting something to happen in the last two decades, because they were studying the events in light of the developments occurring in France. Whenever a change in French policy took place, there was an echo in the makeup of the Tunisian government. As the Tunisians say, whenever it rains in Paris, the Tunisians carry umbrellas.

Does this proverb apply to the changes that have occurred in Tunisia recently? Are they a result of the return of rightwing parties to power in France, or is the deterioration in the economic situation, and what are called the "corruption dossiers" among the factors that have contributed to the demise of Mohamed Mzali?

Whatever the case is, observers recalled on this occasion the words that were repeated by Mohamed Sayah, the present housing and equipment minister, in the work rooms at the al-Masir convention that was held in Bezerte in 1964, "The President's son is his successor."

Habib Bourguiba Jr., who was dismissed a few months ago from his post as special consultant to President Bourguiba, was recently appointed as a member of the political bureau, and his name appeared at the top of the list of the political bureau, and his appointment to the third rank after Mohamed Mzali and Bechir Zarq Layoun, one of the fighters associated with what is called the first squadron.

Has the turn of Habib Bourguiba Jr. come?

This is the question that will be answered by the coming months, if not weeks.

After the Ben Salah era ended with the sentencing of Ben Salah for the crime of high treason in 1969 and his imprisonment, from which he later escaped into exile where he established the opposition movement, and after the Nouira era ended with the arms confiscation operation, and a malignant tumor that forced the Prime Minister Hedi Nouira into early retirement, the question that is repeated vehemently in the Tunisian political street these days is, how will the Mzali era end, and will he be content with what has happened up to now?

Mzali, who learned of his dismissal at a late hour on Tuesday 8 July, is facing an unknown fate. Although the 11 July meeting with the president at his residence in Monastir appeared as if it were planned to dispel rumors, in reality it did just the opposite. Immediately after the dismissal of Mohamed Mzali, the office of the administrative and financial director in the prime ministry, held by Rachid Ben Ahmad, was shut down, as was the office of the bureau chief, held by Mustapha Menif. AL-DUSTUR sources confirm that there is an ongoing investigation into the financial affairs, travel expenses, gifts, and other items connected with the prime ministry. In addition, the day after the dismissal of Mzali, a team of the economic investigations police visited the office of his son, Mukhtar Mzali, at the STIL Company that specializes in dairy products and dried fruit, as part of the investigation that ended with the sudden death of Ferid Mokhtar, Mohamed Mzali's brother-in-law, who was personally responsible for the company, and was director of the Agricultural Development Bank. The investigation deals with financial corruption and mishandling of funds.

The information provided to us also indicates that the former prime minister's wife gave Hedi Baccouch, president of the ruling party, a detailed report about her brother's death in a mysterious automobile accident when he was returning from Ra's al-Jabal, his birthplace, where he had been elected a deputy at the al-Samud conference. At that time, the file implicating him was a source of serious worry to Mzali.

The report indicates that the accident was spurious, and that on that day her brother had felt it likely that someone would try to kill him. The proof of that was that he was carrying a revolver, which was not his habit.

Furthermore, at the conference meeting that chose him as a deputy, he indicated that he would not let his fate be like that of Mohamed Belhadj or Torjmane (friends of the president's wife) and that he possessed significant papers the investigation would reveal if he felt he was really threatened.

The information also discusses a trip the president took to the city of Monastir with Mrs. Saida Sasi, his niece, to visit a large pleasure boat, the yacht "Jazirat Kuriate". He asked who owned it, and she informed him that it belonged to Mr. Mzali and some of his partners, among them Ameer Ghedira. This was a reminder of the fate of his companions, who are referred to as the 'pot-bellied ones'.

Apparently the investigation developed quickly with regards to Mzali's properties, among them the "model dome" that he had built in his home on Sukarah Road which cost 25 billion Millimes that Mohamed Mzali refused to pay. The question posed is whether the payment was made at the expense of one of the state agencies.

The investigation also involves the true nature of the economic situation. Information confirms that Mzali ignored a report prepared by a qualified committee whose members were from the Central Bank of Tunisia and the planners on the occasion of the conference. He substituted in its place numbers and other data that served to cover and conceal information from the president and the party.

The visit that Mr. Mzali made to the president actually occurred in the context of clarifying the facts, relieving the pressures on himself, members of his family, and his friends, and attempting to keep the issue from going beyond the scope of the President's policy options.

The public files do not expose only Mzali and those close to him. Bechir Ben Slama, former minister of culture, has been prevented from traveling due to the open investigation regarding a large sum of money reaching 1 billion that had been allocated for the restoration of the Tunisian House in France. It is actually a castle that was owned by al-Bayat. It was recently recovered by the Ministry of Culture. Yet the file that will not take long to be revealed to all is the file on gold which involved: al-Marzi Shuqair, previous minister of public employment and righthand aide to Mzali, who was replaced by Mahmoud al-Mastir as Ambassador to Geneva so he could be summoned to the investigation; Ahmed Bennour who was secretary of state for national security in the Ministry of the Interior during the days of Driss Qeqah and was involved in the bread riots of January 1974, left the embassy in Rome, and according to the news was turned over by Moroccan authorities; Sadok Ben Jemaa, former minister of equipment who was said to be a fugitive; Mohamed Driss, a former governor and owner of 15 companies, who established the Diplomat in the heart of the capital along with another group of personalities and investors who use fraud and smuggling in collaboration with a Jewish woman who owns a business to sell gold in France.

Meanwhile it was decided that the government should not be restricted to one meeting of the Ministerial Cabinet, and to add to the traditional Thursday meeting another meeting held every Monday. Another big change in the government structure is expected that could result in the departure of Mrs. Su'ad al-Ya'qubi al-Wahshi from the Ministry of Health, a position formerly held by Rachid Sfar, due to major differences with him about the Hamza family founding the al-Habib Thameur Hospital and other issues, and her replacement with Dr. Rachid Mbarek. Also expected is the possibility of Zine El Abidine's transfer to the Ministry of Defense and his replacement in the Interior Ministry by Mohamed Sayah, and the disbanding or consolidation of some of the other ministries to give more influence to Habib Bourgiuba Jr. and Mansour Skhiri.

In anticipation of a change that might include most of the posts in the government structure, especially the governors and the general clerks, the government

is taking over the economic file to search for possible solutions. An idea is being considered to raise the citizen's minimum wage. Likewise, much careful thought is being given to the educational agenda. The government endorsed the report of the ministerial committee the president set up during the al-Samud conference after the college results were published, to examine the educational policy. That report includes proposals that provoked unrest among the people especially the one that supports French language instruction in the primary schools beginning with the second year, along with the deceleration of Arabization. The discontent is obvious especially among the ranks of school principals and teachers regarding the problems created by the new proposals, whether in child education, or in the use of the limited available equipment, which does not allow additional time for instruction.

The question being posed now by the observers in the Tunisian capital is whether or not Rachid Sfar will remain in his post until the coming legislative elections.

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CSO: 4504/394

NATURE, ACTIVITIES OF ISLAMIC EXTREMIST GROUP ANALYZED

London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 21 Jul 86 p 17

[Article: "Tehran is being Accused before the Military Court in Tunis"]

[Text] Could what is happening in Lebanon occur in any of the **Maghreb** countries? This question was posed by several observers following the sessions of the military court examining the case of 26 people described by the public prosecutor as, "a band of criminals and hoodlums". He defined the goals of this gang in the text of the indictment as aiming to transform the country into a situation resembling that of wounded Lebanon.

The case of this armed group whose trial was recently completed before the military court, resembles to a great extent the case of Bou Yala, leader of the Islamic armed group that was tried in Algeria. The similarities are numerous; First, in the modus operandi, especially in embezzlement of public funds and the stealing of arms from the police; secondly, in the use of urban warfare; and thirdly, in the political slogans, not before or during the progress of its armed operations, but only when apprehended and before the court. Bou Yala's group in Algeria attacked police stations, financial centers, and postal offices to generate income, and acted freely in its war against the Algerian state like any criminal gang without calling attention to itself as a political organization. Such is also the case of the group that was brought before the military court in Tunis. For its leader, Habib Daoui, did not announce that the group was actually a political group until during the court sessions. This resemblance demonstrates another aspect shared between the Algerian and Tunisian groups, and that is their association with a foreign party, Iran, according to statements of the defendants before the court.

The defendants in both trials demonstrated their support for the Islamic regime in Iran. This raises another more important question, whether it is possible to start a civil war on religious bases in the countries of the Maghreb as Iran intends to do by organizing groups for the Islamic Jihad. The answer as demonstrated by events in Algeria and Tunisia confirms without a doubt a weakness and futility of such a course. For Tunis, Algeria, and Morocco are not Iran with its numerous nationalities, religious sects, and languages, where ignorance, illiteracy, and the attachment to the superficial rituals of religion are more prevalent than the adherence to the essence of Islam and its Shari'ah.

The group's case examined by the military court began in 1979 when the group's leader Habib Daoui failed his studies and traveled to Libya. From there he returned to Tunis. He then went to Algeria and Lebanon. He subsequently returned to Tunis to establish an agricultural project. At the same time he became involved with student circles in the central and northern parts of the country, and in the capital. Naturally he met opposition groups with various orientations.

He succeeded in the past years to attract a group of individuals to his organization. He began by carrying out a technical study on military affairs. He asked some of the group's members to supply him with materials to facilitate home-made arms manufacture, especially explosive material that was stolen from one of the phosphate mines. Habib Daoui had begun to create his Islamic organization when he met a man called Shaykh Lazrag who is outside the country. This shaykh taught him all he needed to carry out Islamic Jihad, and he promised him support from abroad and explained to him the nature of the Iranian Revolution.

Habib and his group began to carry out some of the armed operations whose aim was to gather assets for the group in funds and arms. It robbed a bank, a police station, and a postal center. It is believed responsible for stealing weapons from one of the security guards in the capital in front of a foreign diplomatic installation.

An anti-crime team investigated the group, considering it a gang of crime and theft with no political plan, because the group had not distributed any statements or publications, and had not laid out a political program. Rather it operated in the style of robbery gangs.

But during the investigation it became clear that the identity of the individuals and the nature of their plans were related to political plans and religious orientations. It also became apparent that a soldier was a member of the group, a first lieutenant. For this reason the case was transferred to the military court.

Despite the investigation and what took place in the trial during the cross-examination of the principal defendant, Habib Daoui, his personality remains very enigmatic and confusing, especially when the investigation confirmed that Habib Daoui did not return to Tunis from Libya and Algeria of his own accord, but was deported. Likewise the court spent a long time and many sessions discussing whether the group had political goals, or whether it was just a gang of hoodlums. Is it a political organization belonging to a foreign party, or is it a criminal gang that resorted to politics after it was captured to protect itself?

What is certain is that the deliberations during the trial showed that the group has political goals. To be exact it is connected with the extremist religious movement, since its leader announced that he was not Sunni, and not Shi'i, but Islamic. This movement is that which Iran tries to use to get into the Maghreb countries. It is also the same movement announced by Vilayati a year ago before some members of the Islamic Tendencies in the

Maghreb countries, when he told them that Iran was ready to support any Islamic activity be it Sunni or Shi'i. What Vilayati meant of course was that Iran was interested in assisting Islamic movements in the creation of Islamic public opinion and pressure groups in the Islamic countries that would support her in her aggressive war in the Arabian Gulf.

The sentences issued indicate that the military court in Tunis also considered these political aspects of the case, especially the group's cooperation with a foreign party with the goal of spreading unrest in the country. The court issued sentences of execution to five of the defendants, and prison sentences to several others. The sentences issued to the defendants were severe not only because it was a criminal case but also because the court took into account the political dimension of the case. Despite these severe sentences, the trial in its entirety has answered an important question. Can Iran create a climate of disturbances, unrest, and civil war by setting up extremist groups in the countries of the Maghreb as it did in Lebanon? The answer is an emphatic no, not only because of the big difference between Iran and the Maghreb countries on the social, cultural, societal, and political levels but also because this form of political operation can be only the work of gangs of hoodlums.

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CSO: 4504/394

FOREIGN WORKFORCE REGISTERS DECREASE SINCE JANUARY

Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 21 Jul 86 p 1

[Text]

BAHRAIN'S expatriate workforce has declined by around 4,000 since January.

And the decrease is Bahrain's first recorded drop in foreign manpower, say top government officials.

Social insurance figures show that between January and June this year a total of 4,177 mostly expatriate employees stopped working in Bahrain.

This compares with an overall increase of 2,561 workers during the same period in 1985, and 6,026 in 1984.

Social insurance registration director Yousif Najim Yousif said although 63 new companies had been formed in Bahrain so far this year, total manpower was declining because other companies were cutting back.

Only companies with 10 and more

workers are required to register with Gosi.

"The number of people registered in the island's social insurance programme fell from 110,243 at the beginning of January to 106,803 at the end of June," he said.

"This is the first time the number of workers in Bahrain has decreased.

"During the same period 10 companies closed but the total number of companies registered with us increased from 1,624 to 1,687."

Mr Najim said a total of 12,431 workers of all nationalities had left jobs during the past six months but 1,637 had switched to other posts and 6,617 new workers had come in.

He said nearly all of the workers who had permanently left their jobs had been expatriates and it could be assumed they had left the island.

- In 1985 the island's expat population grew by nearly 10,000 the biggest influx coming from the Philippines. In 1984 nearly 7,500 expats left the island.

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CSO: 4400/254

PORT FIGURES FOR 1985 SHOW SMALL DROP IN CARGO TONNAGE

Manama GULF MIRROR in English 17-23 Jul 86 p 9

[Article by Prakash Sinha]

[Text] ABOUT TWO MILLION tonnes of cargo entered Bahrain's main port at Mina Sulman during 1985 — five per cent lower than that in the previous year.

But the figures show that the Mina Sulman port did better than other Gulf Ports during a period shadowed by recession.

The decline in tonnage in 1985 was a result of a fall in transshipments and a decrease in the movement of construction materials for Bahrain-Saudi Arabia Causeway which is practically complete.

Outlook

The volume of exports from Bahrain was increased by the shipment

of 130,000 tonnes of aluminium produced by Alba and these exports are continuing in 1986.

The general outlook for the port this year has not changed much.

Last year the trend showed a movement towards containerisation which now accounts for 65 per cent of cargo in terms of tonnage.

Containerisation produces a rapid turnaround period for vessels and the container terminal oper-

ates seven days a week with recent development including the provision of two 300-metre berths.

Bahrain's fourth quarter oil exports in 1985 amounted to BD250 million — the highest quarterly figure during the year.

The total oil exports were worth BD916 million, down from the previous year's figure of BD1.02 billion, and the lowest in value since 1979, when it was BD772 million.

The value of oil imports in the final quarter of last year was BD175 million.

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CSO: 4400/254

WATER CONSUMPTION FIGURES SUPPLIED, LEAKS CITED

Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 17-18 Jul 86 p 1

[Article by Geraldine Bedell]

[Text]

BAHRAIN'S water consumption is more than double internationally-approved levels — but a huge amount of it is wasted in leaks.

Up to 25 per cent of water pumped into the system is believed to be lost in leaks in some areas of the water supply network, the Government has revealed.

And in many dwellings, as much as half the metered consumption literally drains away before anyone has the chance to use it.

Assistant under secretary for power and water affairs Jamil Al Alawi said this summer's daily water consumption should be enough for 1½ million people, instead of the actual 450,000.

"This summer we are using some 55 million gallons a day — up on last year's figure of 50 million gallons a day, and an average of 122 gallons a day per person," he said.

"This is more than twice the internationally agreed acceptable figure of 50 gallons a day per head, which allows for two showers and cooking water for each individual."

Mr Al Alawi said the first reason for excessive consumption — which is very high even if industrial use is discounted to reduce it to 100 gallons a day per head — is leakages in the system outside homes.

"This is up to 25 per cent in some areas, and the acceptable level in the

system is no more than 10 per cent," he said.

He said it was not possible to say exactly how much was being lost until the metering programme was complete and the amount pumped into the system could be compared with consumption.

The second reason was leakages within dwellings. "We think in some cases the bulk of the water is being lost," he said.

Bahrain's consumers also have bad habits of water consumption from years of non-metered water, he added.

"The main reason for metering was water conservation, but bills will also help consumption consciousness," he said.

Consumers with high bills should check their water systems, Mr Al Alawi advised. A water complaints department has just been established, and subsidies are available for families of more than seven people.

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CSO: 4400/254

STATUS OF BANAGAS SUMMARIZED AFTER 6 YEARS OF OPERATIONS

Manama GULF MIRROR in English 17-23 Jul 86 p 6

[Text]

WITHIN SIX years of its operations the Bahrain National Gas Company (Banagas) has achieved 87 per cent Bahrainisation with a number of Bahraini employees taking over leading positions within the company. And at the end of 1985 all superintendent positions were held by Bahraini nationals.

The company is now considering a further increase in its production level to about 220 million cubic feet a day, having already implemented the expansion of its facilities to boost processing capability from 110 million cubic feet a day to 170 million cubic feet a day early this year.

"The upward trend in feed gas rates, forecast to continue in the foreseeable future, outstripped the extra capacity provided by previous design modifications, which has allowed us to operate at 30 per cent above the original design limits for a number of years," said Banagas chairman Shaikh Ebrahim Bin Rashid Al Khalifa.

The company was now running at 50 per cent above the original capacity, he added.

Decline

The company made a net profit during 1985 of BD2.15 million, down more than BD3 million from the previous year's BD5.39 million.

And BD7 million has been paid as dividend for

the year as against BD10.5 million in the preceding year.

Sales revenue totalled \$57.7 million, down by \$9.4 million when compared with the previous year, primarily due to the continuing decline in the sale price of naphtha, coupled with lower overall production.

Operating costs were kept six per cent below budget at \$45.2 million. All items of expenditure were closely monitored throughout the year and substantial savings were achieved without a loss in efficiency, said the chairman.

An increase in the rate charged for feed gas utilised as product was responsible for the annual 'gas charges' payable rising to \$30.5 million in 1985.

Operational activity during the year maintained the previous year's encouraging trend.

Associated gas production from the Bahrain oil field continued to inch up throughout the year as Banoco employed increasing quantities of natural gas in its oil recov-

ery programmes.

However, the benefits to be gained from higher volumes produces were again depressed by a continued decline in the gas quality.

Whereas 61.5 barrels could be extracted from every million cubic feet processed in 1984, only 57.7 barrels were available in 1985.

During the year, more than 2.9 million net barrels of combined liquid products were produced as compared with more than 3.1 million net barrels in the previous year. This was achieved despite two scheduled shutdowns

Refrigerated LPG exports for the year amounted to 78,542 metric tonnes of propane, 70,702 metric tonnes of butane and 1,184,792 net barrels of naphtha.

The number of vessels loaded increased from 22 to 38

BRIEFS

WATER RESOURCES--Fifty-two million gallons of water are produced daily, local press reports say. Thirty million gallons come from desalination plants and the rest from underground reserves. [Text] [London MEED in English 2 Aug 86 p 7] /9274

CSO: 4400/254

INDIANS SETTLE BACKLOG OF DEBTS , ACCEPT OIL

London MEED in English 26 Jul 86 p 12

[Text]

India is to take oil in part-payment for debts due in 1986. The agreement, reached during the 12-14 July visit of an Indian trade team, covers 60 per cent of the payments owing.

The **State Organisation for Oil Marketing** is to supply **Indian National Oil Corporation** with 2.5 million tonnes of crude oil up to March 1987. Baghdad has relented on its earlier insistence that the crude be priced at OPEC rates. Deliveries will be at market-related prices. The deal, valued at about \$190 million, includes the first instalment, due in 1985, on payments deferred in 1983. The second instalment was earlier deferred for 18 months, as were new billings for construction contracts under way. The interest on the deferred payments will be at the London interbank offered rate (Libor). The Indian government has indicated its willingness to plough back about 50 per cent of receipts into any new contracts awarded up to the end of 1986 (MEED 31:5:86; 8:2:86).

The outstanding 40 per cent will be deferred — some for two years and the rest for three.

The New Delhi government is understood to be pleased with the accord, and with Baghdad's readiness to understand

India's own economic difficulties. India is reported to have asked that it be treated differently from developed nations which, it argued, could better afford long-term repayments.

The agreement is viewed as a sign of India's commitment to the Iraqi market that will allow Indian companies to resume bidding for new orders (MEED 3:5:86). The Indian government has stressed that it would like to see a greater involvement in operation and maintenance (O&M) work, although it has not excluded bidding for new construction contracts.

At least four Indian concerns — **Oberoï Group, Associated Cement Company, Indian Rail Construction Company** and **Indian Oil Corporation's** **Economic Services (Pvt) Ltd** — are already working on O&M and management contracts for hotels, cement works and the railway sector.

India is seeking to capitalise on its expertise in managing telecommunications, power generation, and agricultural and agro-industrial schemes. Greater co-operation will be discussed during the planned joint economic commission meeting in early August.

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CSO: 4400/260

TURKEY AGREES TO DEFER DEBT SETTLEMENT

London MEED in English 26 Jul 86 p 12

[Text]

Agreement has been reached about the settlement of \$1,200 million worth of trade debts owed to Turkey. But the absence of a new import finance deal for 1986/87 is reducing imports from Turkey, new trade figures show.

The deferral agreement was reached during the Baghdad visit of Turkey's treasury and foreign trade undersecretary Ekrem Pakdemirli on 15-17 July. It deals with amounts owing since November 1985, when Iraq suspended repayments of credits made in previous trade finance deals with Turkey.

The arrangement calls for 50 per cent of the debts to be repaid in cash after 12 months. Cash is also to be paid for 5 per cent of the debts as they fall due. The remaining 45 per cent is to be paid for with Iraqi crude oil.

The default agreement is the latest in a series of deals in which Turkey has provided ever-more generous financing terms (MEED 17:5:86). In 1983, one-year credit was offered for half the value of imports. The following year, the proportion of imports for which such credit was available rose to 80 per cent. The 1985 agreement, signed in April that year, provided for one-year deferred payment on 100 per cent of imports from Turkey.

These concessions led to a remarkable leap in Turkey's exports to Iraq. In 1983, when Turkey was Iraq's ninth-largest supplier, they were valued at \$320 million. By 1984, Turkey had taken over the top position, selling \$934 million worth of goods.

Financing problems began to take their toll in 1985, when Turkey's sales to Iraq rose only modestly, to \$961 million. Figures for the first four months of 1986 show that imports fell by more than 20 per cent, to \$339.7 million, compared with the corresponding period of 1985.

The 1985 deferred payment deal expired on 16 April, but a three-month extension was agreed in May. However, the May talks failed to produce agreement about a fresh trade finance arrangement for 1986/87. Baghdad is understood to have failed to persuade Ankara to accept a two-year deferral on payments for imports.

In the absence of a government-to-government deal, Turkish companies have been forced to fall back on non-official sources of finance. They are reported to be experiencing difficulty in meeting Baghdad's demand for two-year finance for all imports. This is bound to lead to a further reduction in Iraq's imports from Turkey, traders say.

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CSO: 4400/260

IPSA 2 RECEIVES 'OVERWHELMINGLY POSITIVE' RESPONSE

London MEED in English 26 Jul 86 p 13

[Article by Jonathan Crusoe]

[Text]

THE RESPONSE of international contractors to the bidding for the second phase of the Iraq pipeline across Saudi Arabia (IPSA 2) has been "overwhelmingly positive." According to deputy oil minister and Iraq National Oil Company president Issam al-Chalabi: "We are going to sign the contract before the end of the year."

At a press conference in Baghdad, he pointed out that it is "a buyer's market for engineering and construction companies, just as it is for crude. I'm asking for 100 per cent financing and I'm getting it. Any form of financing will be considered."

The tender closing date for the project — estimated to cost up to \$1,500 million — has been put back to September. Construction of the 970-kilometre line is expected to take two years (MEED 7:6:86).

IPSA 2 will increase export capacity through Saudi Arabia to 1.65 million barrels a day (b/d). With the expansion of the Turkish pipeline — scheduled to start operating in June 1987 — it will push up Iraq's export capacity to 3.2 million b/d at the beginning of 1989.

Iraq is now pumping to the limit of its export capacity, Al-Chalabi says. Trucks are taking crude oil and petroleum products through Turkey and Jordan; in addition, 1 million b/d is being piped through Turkey and 500,000 b/d through Saudi Arabia. "To date we have sold

every single barrel we can pump, and I can assure you that we will do the same again next year."

With regard to oil prices, he said Iraq is following the market. Expressing doubts that prices could drop any further, he added that he hoped to see a rise to \$17-18 a barrel by the end of 1986.

Al-Chalabi echoed President Saddam Hussain's 17 July statement that Iraq is seeking an increase in its present OPEC quota of 1.2 million b/d. "We have asked for a fair quota and will not accept anything less than 13.1 per cent of total (OPEC) output. We are not prepared to make further sacrifices by reducing production or exports."

Gas exports to Kuwait through a new pipeline are to start soon, he said. First-phase throughput of 200 million cubic feet a day will double when a second phase begins in September.

Engineering and construction contracts for the new West Qurna oil field — which Al-Chalabi says is large — are being finalised. A series of agreements to develop the area has been signed with the Soviet Union (MEED 31:5:86).

Operations are expected to start at a new East Baghdad field at the end of 1987, when the degassing scheme is complete. Al-Chalabi confirmed there are plans to build a refinery to process crude oil from the field (MEED 8:2:86; 1:2:86).

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CSO: 4400/260

ESCALATING VIOLENCE IN GAZA CHRONICLED

Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 4 Jul 86 p 13

[Text]

Dr. Rabah Muhanna, in his mid-30s, lies in pain at St. Joseph's Hospital in Jerusalem. Both his legs are in plaster casts, one of which extends to the thigh. His right arm is bandaged and two scars run up the other arm above the elbow. A large cut is visible on his right cheek. Only with the help of two assistants does he manage to sit up to talk to visitors or eat his meals.

Dr. Muhanna and eight other members of the same family are the latest victims of a wave of violence which has rocked the Gaza Strip in the last few weeks, and which threatens this narrow and overcrowded strip of land in southern Palestine with all-out civil strife.

The attack against Dr. Muhanna appears to be part of a master plan carried out by Muslim fundamentalists to get rid of nationalist figures from prominent institutions in the Gaza Strip, leaving them in the hands of extremist Islamic groups. Nationalists in the Gaza Strip assert that the attacks are linked to Israeli plans to implement unilateral political schemes in the West Bank and Gaza, which are unacceptable to Palestinians. At present, the proposals put forth by former Gaza Mayor, Rashad Shawwa, which are finding considerable support among the Israelis, Americans, and possibly Jordanians and Egyptians, are a matter of concern to Gazans.

The brutal attack against Dr. Muhanna occurred June 26, shortly after he left his medical clinic on the way home. Speaking with a great deal of effort from his hospital bed, Dr. Muhanna said that as he made his way home, he noticed he was being pursued by another car. During the chase that ensued two other cars joined the pursuit. Dr. Muhanna said he considered going to the police station, but figured the police, weak as they are, might not be willing to give him protection. Instead, he decided to head to a nearby family's house, where he expected the family members could scare the pursuers away.

Unexpectedly, the pursuers were not scared, and instead followed when he stopped in front of the family's house. The nearly one dozen men who got out of their cars were all armed with metal pipes and daggers, said Dr. Muhanna. Unable to get out of his car, Dr. Muhanna locked the doors from inside and began to blow his car horn continuously. The attackers then began battering in the car windows. The physician jumped into the back seat, but the thugs broke all the car windows and began to batter him while inside the car. At the same time, the attackers were telling one another to get the doctor outside so they could "finish him off."

The sounds of breaking glass and the shouts of the attackers drew some Muhanna family members outside. Although they did not immediately recognize who was being beaten, the family members, some of them in their 60s intervened to rescue the man in the car. The attackers, later determined to be Islamic fundamentalists, turned on the family, and began battering them. Subsequently, eight family members were severely beaten, some sustaining serious injuries to the legs, and others suffering bruises to various parts of the body. Only when family members fought back with axes, stones, and other instruments did they manage to fend off the thugs and rescue Dr. Muhanna.

The police later arrived at the scene and arrested a man from al-Halabi family, apparently after the police managed to identify his car. All family members were then hospitalized, but only Dr. Muhanna and a 60-year-old relative, Adel, remain in hospital.

A statement signed by a group calling itself "The Islamic Direction" claimed responsibility for the attack. The statement, which apparently came as a warning to the Muhanna family, one of the largest families in Gaza, after rumors spread that the family was seeking to revenge the attack, accused Dr. Muhanna of plotting similar attacks against the Islamic fundamentalists.

They also accused him of being a communist, a charge Muslim extremists often levy against nationalists who oppose their stands.

Replying to these charges, Dr. Muhanna said, "They themselves know that I am not a communist." The physician told *Al-Fajr* he believes he was targeted because he always stood against violence and advocated democratic dialogue to solve differences. He went on to say that apparently they did not like that and decided to come out against him. Asked if he had changed his mind about resorting to violence, Dr. Muhanna said he now believes more firmly than ever that dialogue is the only way. "We could be drawn into civil strife, and thus we all would be losers," he said. Dr. Muhanna also stressed that he does not think that the Muhanna family is seeking revenge, and asserted again that all such attacks must cease.

Dr. Muhanna believes the fundamentalists are apparently angry at their loss of control over the Arab Medical Association, one of a handful of public institutions in the Gaza Strip which went to the nationalists. Until 1985, the Arab Medical Association was dominated by Islamic fundamentalists, when Dr. Mahmoud al-Zahhar, who is said to be one of the top leaders of the Islamic movement in Gaza, headed the association. In 1985, nationalist physicians won the general elections and this angered the extremists. Dr. Zahhar, and two other physicians, have reportedly been arrested in connection with the attack on Dr. Muhanna. Gaza residents, however, speculate that the detention of these figures was aimed at protecting them from acts of revenge by nationalists or

Muhanna family members.

The attack was perhaps the most violent incident in a series in Gaza where Islamic extremists are trying to weaken nationalist influence in the Strip. Many others have been affected. Last week, four university professors and employees received dismissal notices from the Islamic University administration on the charge of breach of responsibility. Four others received a last warning before dismissal. Dr. Fawaz Abu Sitteh, an assistant professor in the Economics Department, and one of those who received dismissal notices, said that the administration claimed that he and others had helped some students cheat during final exams. Dr. Abu Sitteh said that the university dominated by Islamic extremists, was simply using a pretext to get rid of him and other nationalist employees in order to make it an exclusively fundamentalist institution. He argued that according to normal procedures, an employee must first get warnings before he can be fired. In his case he never got a warning during his four years at the university. He also pointed

out that the university's board of trustees, who according to the internal bylaws are in charge of hiring and firing lecturers, refused to sign the dismissal notices. He said the university administration has acted on its own.

Dr. Abu Sitteh wrote letters, June 30, to the university administration, particularly university President Dr. Muhammed Siam and to the university board of trustees explaining the problem and asking that the dismissal decision be rescinded. He asserts that if the decision is not rescinded, it might open the door for more dismissals among students, professors and even gate keepers.

Gazans interviewed by *Al-Fajr* say the Israeli authorities are closing their eyes to, if not

actually supporting, the extremist elements in their war against nationalists. A woman student at the university, who herself was the target of extremists attacks in the past, explained that the wave of violence coincides with the increasing talk about returning the Gaza Strip to Egypt, as proposed by former Gaza Mayor Rashad Shawwa. The student said the Israelis' and Muslim fundamentalists' interests meet when fighting nationalists, but perhaps for different reasons. The student further explained that the Israelis are concerned with eliminating nationalist resistance to such schemes, while the Muslim fundamentalists aim at establishing their unchallenged control over the Gaza Strip.

Nationalist figures were concerned last week that the Gaza Strip was edging toward civil strife. Both Dr. Muhanna and Dr. Abu Sitteh warned that more acts of violence are likely to draw Gaza into a spiral of destruction. A prominent student from the Progressive Student Union, one of the nationalist student blocs at the university, said that nationalist students and people in the Gaza Strip are able, if they want to, to reply with similar violence to the Muslim fundamentalists, but they are careful not to do so because that would certainly bring the Strip to the brink of internal strife. "We only try to repel attacks against us," the student said, adding that they never revenge an attack.

COMMITTEE FORMED TO END VIOLENCE MEETS, CALLS FOR CALM

Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 11 Jul 86 p 2

[Text]

Following weeks of internal violence, which left more than a dozen Gazans wounded, the Gaza Strip appeared to calm down last week.

The cessation of hostilities between Islamic fundamentalists and Palestinian nationalists followed a general meeting of representatives of local institutions at the Lawyer's Union offices in Gaza City, July 2.

According to a statement issued by the more than 130 conferees and published in the local press, the attendants condemned all kinds of internal violence and called on all residents to restore calm. The five-point statement also said that a 15-member committee was se-

lected by the attendees in order to try to reach concrete solutions to the outstanding problems.

The gathering was one of the largest meetings of nationalist figures from various local institutions with Muslim religious leaders, including the president of the fundamentalist dominated Islamic university, Dr. Muhammad Siam. The conferees discussed for more than five hours the latest violent attacks by extremist Muslim elements against nationalist individuals and groups in the Strip, including the attempt on the life of Dr. Rabah Muhanna, a leading member of the Arab Medical Society in the Gaza Strip last week. Dr. Muhanna was badly injured and

was transferred to the hospital, where he remains.

A source at the Lawyer's Union told *Al-Fajr* that the conferees tried to avoid the subject of who initiated the violence, and rejected the pleas by some attendees to investigate the violence in order to punish those responsible. The conferees said that would only lead to renewed conflict. The source added that the conferees were concerned with putting an end to the violence, and that any talk about investigating the latest attacks would not help to achieve that goal.

The conflict between the two groups is over control of the various Gaza Strip institutions.

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CSO: 4400/263

BRIEFS

NEW HEAD OF ISLAMIC WAQF--The head of the Islamic Waqf Fayez Hazineh will leave the West Bank for an advisory post in Jordan's Waqf. Hazineh has been living in the West Bank for some time without his wife. His requests to get his wife to stay here were turned down by the Israelis. He will be replaced by Hashem Asha'r from Tulkarm. Ash'ar has been directing the Islamic Orphanage School in Jerusalem. [Text][Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 18 Jul 86 p 16]/12828

CSO: 4400/263

PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE URGED

Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 2 Aug 86 p 3

[Text] **AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian government is encouraging private firms to develop state-owned land and thereby increase agricultural output and animal wealth and the government will facilitate their endeavours and offer them incentives, Under Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture Salem Al Lawzi said here Friday.**

He said that the Ministry of Agriculture has been leasing land to private companies for a nominal fee of 100 fils a dunum annually to encourage these firms to develop the land for a period of 15 years. The ministry also offers a two year grace period to allow these companies to set up their installations for their projects, he added. After the elapse of the grace period, the annual nominal fee for the lease will be JD 5 if no schemes have been implemented and the lease will no longer be valid if there is further delay in implementing projects, Dr. Lawzi said in an exclusive interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra.

He said that under the terms of the lease, an investor should provide plans for raising livestock and cultivating land through irrigation projects on an area of at least 5,000 dunums. Also, an investor should prove to be financially capable of embarking on such projects and must present a feasibility study of the proposed scheme to the Ministry of Agriculture, Dr. Lawzi continued.

State-owned land, he said, can be leased to individuals,

companies, cooperative societies or other institutions approved by the government and all will enjoy the incentives, exemptions and services offered through the Ministry of Agriculture.

But, he said, those who undertake the development of agricultural land cannot recommission the work to others or use the land for other purposes throughout the 15-year term.

The scheme to lease land to the public is designed to help the country produce more cereals and lean meat, both of which are in great demand, and in a bid to help the Kingdom achieve self

sufficiency in food supplies in accordance with the objectives and aims of the 1986-1990 five-year development plan, Dr. Lawzi said.

Companies and individuals undertaking to develop land, mostly in the south-east of the country, will help increase Jordan's agricultural area through exploiting underground water resources and will provide opportunities for employment, thus reducing the flow of people from rural to urban regions of Jordan, Dr. Lawzi pointed out.

Dr. Lawzi said that the reclamation of desert regions and the exploitation of underground water has been a concern of the government for many years and for this reason it has set up experimental stations and conducted feasibility studies prior to embarking on the process of leasing land to the public.

This process, he said, began in 1985 with the implementation of a project for the production of cereals and fodder at Sahl Al Suwwan in southern Jordan, following which a decision was made to lease the land to investors.

Stage one

In the first stage, the government leased nearly 125,000 dunums of land at Mudawwara and Sahl Al Suwwan to five local companies which pledged to embark on projects for the production of lean meat, cereals and fodder, Dr. Lawzi said.

He said that the second stage entailed leasing 40,000 dunums of land at Mudawwara to companies and individuals. The implementation of these projects,

he said, will no doubt increase the country's agricultural expertise, especially through utilising high technology, and this will have its positive impact on Jordan's social and development as a whole and will also stem desertification.

Interviewed by Petra on the same subject, Dr. Fayez Tarawneh, economic advisor at the Prime Ministry, said that the presence of underground water in the Disi and Sahl Al Suwwan regions encouraged the government to embark on this project. Altogether, the government hopes to develop 200,000 dunums of semi-desert land in the first stage, but the Ministry of Agriculture has now completed survey of an additional 75,000 dunums in the same region, also to be leased to companies for agricultural development, Dr. Tarawneh continued.

The government stipulated that the leased land should be used for raising livestock, growing crops, animal feed and cereals, but it is

up to the investors to determine the amount of land for each purpose, Dr. Tarawneh added. The government, in a bid to encourage cereal growers, has pledged to purchase wheat output for the first five years at subsidised prices, Dr. Tarawneh continued.

Before the end of this year, the government plans to lease another 100,000 dunums of land to various investors and a further 100,000 dunums will be offered at a later date to non-Arab investors, Dr. Tarawneh announced.

He said that these projects are essential for the Kingdom which annually consumes 500,000 tonnes of wheat. The production of cereals and fodder will subsequently increase animal wealth and the production of lean meat, much demand in Jordan, he added. At present, he said, teams of experts are conducting surveys and studies on underground water in the Disi and Sahl Al Suwwan regions to determine the amounts needed for agricultural and industrial projects.

ORPHANS VILLAGE BEING BUILT IN SUDAN WITH KUWAITI FUNDS

Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 3 Aug 86 p 3

[Text]

AN orphans village in Sudan, being built with Kuwaiti funds, is due to open later this month, eight months behind schedule.

But the organisers say that the project is running short of funds and have appealed for donations to allow the completion of Hanan village.

The land for the project was donated by the Sudanese government, but the funds to build and equip the village have been raised by leading personalities in

the women's movement in Kuwait.

The first phase of the project was to have opened at the end of last year, but the opening was delayed because of a shortage of funds to complete the KD 1.25 million project.

The village will accommodate 1,000 orphans, mainly Eritrean refugees. The organisers are hoping to launch schemes within the village to help make it self-

sufficient. They want to build schools and professional training centres, dairy and poultry farms, a hospital, mosque and a bakery. Produce from the bakery would be used to feed the village and the rest would be sold outside.

The organisers say that they are short of 10 percent of the funds needed to complete the project. Most of the money needed would go on starting the self-financing projects.

/12828

CSO: 4400/256

AID TO MOSLEMS CONCENTRATES ON HEALTH, ECONOMIC PROJECTS

Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 3 Aug 86 p 4

[Text]

THERE has been a remarkable development in Kuwaiti-Mauritanian cooperation over the past few years, particularly after the official visit of HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah, to Mauritania in 1981, Al Qabas said yesterday.

This cooperation has covered many areas, especially in the health field, with Kuwait building two big hospitals in Mauritania — one the Sabah TB and chest diseases hospital, the other the Tajkaja general hospital.

Manage

Kuwait not only constructed the two hospitals and handed them over to the Mauritanian authorities, but has also continued to manage and supervise them, providing doctors and specialists and the latest medical equipment similar to those used in European and Kuwaiti hospitals. Kuwait has also continued to import the required drugs and other medical requirements.

The head of the Kuwait Medical Mission in Mauritania, Dr Ahmad Jassem, told Al

Qabas that the mission was sometimes compelled to import drugs by air, which was very costly, to ensure continued supplies of drugs.

Link

The Tajkaja general hospital is in Tajkaja city, the capital of Tagant province. This area was selected because it is several

hundred miles away from the capital and isolated from the rest of the country. Residents previously had to travel hundreds of miles for medical treatment in the capital.

The hospital was also meant to reduce pressure on the National Hospital in the capital.

The hospital, which was officially opened in 1983, was divided into out-patients and in-patients sections. The hospital has 50 beds with two operating theatres. It has a direct link with the Kuwaiti mission in the capital.

Relations

An official at the Kuwait Medical Mission said the two hospitals cost about \$5 million, and there were plans to expand the hospital at Tajkaja to include residential complexes for doctors and other employees.

Commenting on Kuwaiti-Mauritanian relations, the Kuwaiti charge de affaires in Mauritania, Sulaiman Al Harbi, described the relations as "more than good," mainly because of the wise policy of HH the Amir and of HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

He said that Kuwait's relations with Mauritania "stem from joint religion, customs and Arab traditions."

He said that relations between the two countries covered all areas, including economic, cultural, and information, and described political relations as "very good."

Projects

He said there was economic cooperation between the two countries in addition to Kuwait's financial and economic aid.

He said Kuwait also constructed hotels, had shares in Mauritanian banks, participated in economic projects, and that Zakat House gave financial help.

Speaking about the Kuwaiti economic projects in Mauritania, Al Harbi said these included road maintenance and construction projects, help in looking after roads of over 460 kms and technical study for the construction of a 200-km long road between the two main cities at a cost of KD 4 million.

He said Kuwait was building a 600 kms road between the capital and a main city. This road passed through rich agricultural areas in which about three-quarters of the population lived. The total cost was around KD 35 million.

Kuwait will also provide KD 8.13 million for expansion of the Nuwathibou port.

Mines

Al Harbi said Kuwait was providing assistance and financial aid to develop the Kalb iron mines project in order to increase annual production from nine million tons to about 14 million tons.

The project included establishing a factory, power station and other utilities at a total cost of over \$460 million.

He said that Kuwait had excellent educational, informational and cultural relations with Mauritania.

Meanwhile, the director of budget and supervision at Kuwait's Health Ministry, Ahmad Al Rashed, told Al Qabas that Kuwait did not fail to provide medical and other forms of aid to Arab and Islamic countries.

He stressed that this aid was provided on the instruction of the Amir and of the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

He added that charitable establishments in the country also played an important role in providing different forms of aid "to our brothers in Arab and Islamic countries."

Charitable

He said the government was still continuing to finance the charitable projects despite Kuwait's difficult economic conditions. He said that this meant that helping 'brothers' was a milestone in Kuwait's policy.

Al Rashed said that Kuwait provided medical services "from Peshawar in the east to Mauritania in the west of the Islamic world, including Lebanon, Sudan, Yemen and Somalia."

He said a 150-bed hospital was established in Peshawar by a number of Kuwaitis and it was then handed over to the Kuwait Red Crescent Society. He said it served mainly Afghan refugees in Pakistan. He said the society established another hospital and 25 medical units along the Pakistan-Afghan borders, and provided free medical care to Afghan refugees.

Relief

Al Rashed said that a public hospital was established in Sanaa, North Yemen, to provide free medical treatment.

He said that a hospital was under construction in the

Sudanese city of Kasala, and a representative of the Kuwaiti relief committee in Sudan was distributing aid to needy people.

He said the government also established a 75-bed hospital at Nabatiya in south Lebanon and provided aid to a hospital in Beirut. He said the government established a hospital in Somalia and two hospitals in Mauritania.

Al Rashed said that Zakat House was providing food to Mauritania and assisting in digging underground water wells.

KUWAIT's Minister of Public Works and chairman of the Agriculture and Fisheries Authority, Abdul Rahman Al Houti, yesterday said the authority would shortly reconsider subsidies granted to agriculture produce.

Following a tour of a number of farms, he said the authority was preparing a number of plans to help the agricultural sector become self-reliant.

The authority was to study alterations to subsidies for agricultural produce he said, adding that the authority would change its role from supporting the agriculture and animal sectors to the role of a guide leaving the financing to the private sector.

BRIEFS

FINANCING SUDAN'S COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM --Khartoum, July 30, (KUNA): A Sudanese delegation representing the Ministry of Finance and the Postal Administration will visit Kuwait next month for talks on rehabilitating Sudan's telecommunications system and post offices, it was announced today. The delegation will discuss with officials from the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development an emergency plan to reactivate 120 post offices in different parts of Sudan and the expansion of the Umharaz satellite station to facilitate direct international telephone and telex connections. A fund delegation recently visited Khartoum to discuss the project which will cost \$7.5 million and is to be completed within a year. [Text][Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 31 Jul-1 Aug 86 p 3]/12828

AWADI PLANS SOVIET TRIP--Contacts are currently underway to fix a date for the visit of Kuwait's Health Minister, Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi, to the Soviet Union. Seyassah newspaper has learnt that the visit was scheduled for late October or early November, and that the talks would centre on establishing a Soviet health office in Kuwait for training and treatment. Dr Al Awadi is expected to sign an agreement with his Soviet counterpart on holding a medical seminar in Kuwait with the participation of Soviet eye specialists and for sending Kuwaiti doctors for training at Soviet medical institutes. [Text][Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 2 Aug 86 p 5]/12828

CSO: 4400/256

KHADDAM COMMENTS ON IRAQ, LEBANON FOR LONDON MAGAZINE

London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 25 Jun - 1 Jul 86 pp 17-19

[Interview with 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam, vice-president of Syria, by unnamed correspondent: "Our Friendship With Iran Began Before the Outbreak of the Gulf War"; date and place not given]

[Text] Mr 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian vice-president, asserted that Iraqi "conduct" incompatible with what King Husayn of Jordan had conveyed during his mediation efforts was what had led to postponement of the border meeting between the foreign ministers of Syria and Iraq. Pointing to the firm relations linking Syria and Iran, he said that these relations existed before the outbreak of the Iraq-Iran War. Speaking about sectarian mini-states in Lebanon, he said that their establishment is absolutely not permissible. Discussing the Syrian disagreement with the Lebanese Hizballah, he denied that Iran had a connection with the disagreement. Mr Khaddam's interview with AL-MAJALLAH follows.

[Question] It was expected that a Syrian-Iraqi meeting would take place at the foreign minister level. Why did this meeting not take place?

[Answer] The meeting did not take place because there was conduct on the Iraqi side inconsistent with what King Husayn, who was working to arrange the meeting, had conveyed to Damascus. This conduct was what led to the cancellation of the meeting.

[Question] Can you tell us what King Husayn conveyed to Damascus?

[Answer] At the time that our brother Arabs were moving to restore Syrian-Iraqi relations, we explained our point of view that these relations had a special status that did not apply between any two other Arab states, and that solutions consequently had to be sought within the framework of this special status. King Husayn informed the president that the Iraqi side was speaking with the same logic about this special status and about strategic relations. This helped open the door to a meeting. Then we were surprised by certain conduct not in harmony with what we had been told.

[Question] Through Mr Tariq 'Aziz, the Iraqis say that the security meeting between Baghdad and Damascus some time ago on the border did not

develop into political meetings because you stipulated immediate unity as a basis for any dialogue. In his opinion, this is impossible after a break in relations for a long time. Do you have any idea about meeting the Iraqis outside the framework of immediate unity?

[Answer] At all the meetings that have taken place between Syrian and Iraqi officials, discussion centered around the special relations between the two countries and the fact that these meetings must take place in light of these special relations. As long as the formula is not constructed on this basis, the situation will remain unstable and threatened with collapse at any moment.

We set forth our ideas for solving this crisis in light of and on the basis of special relations between the two countries, but the Iraqi side was starting from different premises. This is what happened at the previous meetings. In the course of King Husayn's tours, it was agreed that any discussion would take place within the context of a new examination of the meeting that was cancelled. That was the basis of what King Husayn conveyed.

Syrian-Iraqi Disagreement

[Question] The Iraqis say that the basic point of disagreement is the relationship between Syria and Iran. During his travels, did King Husayn discuss this point with you?

[Answer] First, the disagreement between us and the Iraqi side did not begin after the Iraq-Iran War; it preceeded this war. I do not want to review this disagreement and its developments. When relations were moving toward unity between Syria and Iraq, our relations were good with the Iranian revolution in its beginnings and then with the revolutionary regime after its victory. When the revolution took place in Iran, it raised principal slogans that agreed with our overall political line. The first slogan was partnership with the Arabs in the struggle to liberate Jerusalem. This slogan was the antithesis of the policy Iran had been practicing--a policy of alliance with Israel.

When a country such as Iran, located on the borders of the Arab homeland, with 8 centuries of relations between it and us, and a Muslim country, too, changes from a position utterly hostile to a position that puts forward and proclaims a new policy serving our goals in the region, we ought to cooperate with that regime.

These two factors played and are playing a large role in our relations with Tehran. We must therefore work to foster the best of relations with Iran. These relations should have an influence on the situation presently existing between Iraq and Iran and on its various possibilities.

Creation of Greater Syria

[Question] In the West, it is said that you are working to realize Greater Syria, something that has strengthened the fears of a faction of the

Lebanese, who have used this subject as a basis for rejecting an understanding with you and for rejecting the Tripartite Agreement. Are you working to realize Greater Syria?

[Answer] As far as I know, the principal centers in the Western World understand the volume of assistance that Syria has offered to Lebanon--assistance such as no nation can offer to another. Since the outbreak of the Lebanese crisis, President Hafiz al-Asad has been giving the Lebanese issue the largest part of his time, because he grasps its importance and the nature of the relations existing between our people in Syria and in Lebanon. If there are people in the West who speak in such terms, their talk is based on established positions; they constitute an extension of the Western mentality that has divided and fragmented the Arab nation and that desires the state of fragmentation in the Arab homeland to continue. As for our brothers in Lebanon: as we all know, everyone talks about special and preferred relations with Syria. There is no one who does not talk about such preferred and special relations, except for a group who have ties outside Lebanon. This group rejects and is working against the achievement of the unity of Lebanon, or even against the acceptance of coexistence with the rest of the Lebanese. It is natural for this group to embark upon making such pronouncements for which you will find no echo in the midst of the Lebanese.

[Question] The circles of your Lebanese allies are saying that the agreements which you have overseen, except for the Tripartite Agreement, were merely security agreements to calm the situation. They think that security can be stabilized only through an integrated political proposal. Have they discussed this with you? Do you intend to oversee any new political accord?

[Answer] Since the outbreak of the Lebanese crisis, our point of view has been that the question of security is bound up with the political solution. The conflict going on in Lebanon is not a security conflict; it is a political conflict. As long as there is no comprehensive political solution, no serious security solution can be reached in Lebanon. In all the stages of the crisis, we have been urging and working for a solution to the security problem by reaching a political solution. We did not try to give the impression that we were striving for a security solution separate from the political solution. Our friends and brothers in Lebanon and all the Lebanese know this point of view of ours.

[Question] Indications of an Iranian-Syrian disagreement about Lebanon have appeared recently. This disagreement has been deduced on the basis of the Hizballah's rejection of the Tripartite Agreement. On the ground, it has been deduced from small battles in the Biqa' region between your allies, on the one hand, and the Hizballah, on the other. What is the truth of this information.

[Answer] The Iranian leaders assure us of their support for Syrian policy in Lebanon. One should not connect with the Iranian leadership what is going on in the Lebanese theater among the Lebanese. What is going on has

specifically Lebanese aspects and is part of the bloody crisis in Lebanon. Consequently, we do not and should not hold the Iranian leadership responsible for actions performed by elements that have a tie, strong or weak, to Tehran. Furthermore, had a revolt against the Tripartite Agreement not taken place last 15 January, the agreement would now be on the way to implementation, and we should not be seeing a serious possibility of the obstruction of such implementation in the regions not controlled by the 15 January rebels.

Lebanese Sectarian Mini-States

[Question] The fragmentation of Lebanon into sectarian mini-states and hence the fragmentation of the Arab region was the basic goal of the 1982 Israeli attack. And look, Lebanon is now divided! There is a Maronite mini-state, a Sunni one, a Shi'ite one, a Druze mini-state, etc. Has Israel realized its purpose in the attack?

[Answer] I share your opinion that one of Israel's goals was the fragmentation and splitting not only of Lebanon, but of the entire Arab nation. Israel's security borders are not geographical borders; they are political borders. To the extent that the Arab nation is united and Arab society cohesive, it will form a roadblock to aggressive Israeli goals. To the extent that the Arab nation is split and weak, the road will be open to Israeli ambitions. Israel's goal, then, is not Lebanon; it is the Arab nation. But I do not share your conclusion that there are sectarian mini-states in Lebanon. There is no Maronite mini-state, or a Druz mini-state, or a Shi'ite one. The eastern section in Beirut and what adjoins it do not constitute the case of a mini-state. By the very nature of the case, we cannot say that there is a Shi'ite mini-state.

[Question] By a Shi'ite mini-state, I meant the Tyre area.

[Answer] There is a civil war, and there is a security situation that has rendered human contacts between the various conflicting Lebanese groups difficult. If we came to East Beirut and the adjoining area, we would find public opinion agreed on the unity of the country. Even those who have control in the eastern region do not bring up the question of division or the establishment of a mini-state. Although there are elements with extensions abroad that want to see the country torn apart, the overwhelming majority in this area is for restoring the unity of the country and living together. This area has presented neither the case of a state nor that of a mini-state. If we came to the Shuf region: control there is exercised by the Progressive Socialist Party, which is a nationalist party struggling for the unity of Lebanon and for Lebanon's Arab identity. It is not just or fair for us to say that there is the case of a mini-state in the Shuf region. There is a security situation resulting from the security situation in Lebanon as a whole. As for the third case, that of the Tyre region to which you have just referred, there is no mini-state or even a quarter of a mini-state. And there is no prospect for such a thing. It is unjust for us to say that those who fought and are fighting Israel are setting up a mini-state. Indeed, the central government and the governing institution are now fragmented, but this does not mean that there are mini-states

in existence or on the way to existence. No one can or will be able to establish such mini-states, because this is the red line that no one can cross and that no one is permitted to cross. This line is the political, geographical, and social unity of Lebanon.

[Question] Allow me to speak more frankly. A faction of the Lebanese say that you seek to perpetuate your presence in the North and in the Biqa' and that you have no objection to keeping the conflict going in the other regions. How do you view this issue?

[Answer] This is untrue. We are present in Lebanon--physically in some areas, politically in all areas. Everyone believes that efforts must be brought to bear to solve the Lebanese crisis. Even more, most of the regions want Syrian forces present, because they perceive that these forces are offering serious assistance to Lebanon and the Lebanese. We want Lebanon to reach the haven of peace and regain its political and social unity completely. We have no interest in anything else. What is Syria's interest in the conflict remaining open in Lebanon? Those who spread such talk are either agents of Israel or of certain intelligence agencies hostile to Lebanese unity and to Syria.

[Question] The president of Lebanon has considered President al-Asad's statements about holding to the spirit of the Tripartite Agreement and the possibility of discussing the details a positive position. He has said that he will meet this stand with positive steps. Has President al-Jumayyil contacted you or presented any proposals?

[Answer] Accord or lack of it is a Lebanese problem. The Tripartite Agreement is an agreement between the Lebanese parties. Syria helped these parties to sit down at the negotiating table. President al-Asad has said to the Lawyers' Guild in Lebanon that Syria will concur with everything the Lebanese agree on. In this area, I repeat what the president said: Syria's policy is constant; we will concur with everything the Lebanese agree on. The Tripartite Agreement is not a Syrian agreement; it is a Lebanese agreement. Syria is not a party to the agreement that it should argue for it or be argued with.

[Question] Since the beginning of the Lebanese war, Syria has had a plan to separate the Lebanese crisis from what is called the Middle East crisis. Can the two problems really be separated?

[Answer] Yes, and one must work to separate the civil war in Lebanon from the Arab-Israeli conflict. If we tied the internal crisis in Lebanon to the Arab-Israeli conflict, we would share in the murder and destruction of Lebanon. Since there is no solution in sight to the crisis of the Arab-Israeli conflict, which is a long and continued conflict, tying the Lebanese crisis to that conflict means its continuation and the continuation of the state of internecine fighting. This is contrary to the interest of our people in Lebanon and the interest of our people in the Arab nation. Those who try to tie the two crises together want only to kidnap Lebanon and bargain over it in order to find a place for themselves at an imaginary settlement table that has no existence in the foreseeable future.

[Question] After his talks with French officials, President Husayn al-Husayni came back with the impression that international circumstances are now favorable for the implementation of UN Resolution 425. He has doubtlessly informed you of these talks. Do you think with him that there is a possibility for implementing the resolution in question without an American veto or without having the United States present an interpretation of the resolution that Syria and the Lebanese will reject?

[Answer] Our brother, Mr Husayn al-Husayni, has informed us about his talks in Paris and about the French position, which is a good one. We believe the implementation of Resolution 425 is linked in a fundamental way to the operations of the Lebanese national resistance in the South and in the West Biqa'. To the extent that the Lebanese nationalists are able to exercise military pressure, they are opening the way to the implementation of Resolution 425. Apart from this, there are no serious indications for the implementation of this resolution, especially since there are no international political or economic pressures on the Israeli enemy to abide by the implementation of this resolution. Nevertheless, I believe that our brothers in Lebanon have to work along two lines: the first is persistence in escalating the national resistance so as to achieve complete withdrawal; the second is the political line, by contacting and mobilizing world public opinion for the implementation of Resolution 425.

No American Guarantees

[Question] It has been rumored that the escalation of the American-Israeli campaign against Syria was because of your refusal to give security guarantees to Israel in the south of Lebanon. Can you tell us what sort of guarantees the Americans were seeking?

[Answer] The Americans sought no guarantees, because they know that Syria would not provide guarantees to the Israeli enemy. The real reasons for the American-Zionist campaign against Syria are because Syria is following a nationalist policy hostile to Zionism and imperialism and is resisting American policy aimed at tightening American control over the region and at strengthening Zionist aggressive influence, whether in Palestine or in the occupied Arab territories. The United States considers Israel its principal and only ally in the region. Israel is the only state that has signed strategic alliance agreements with the United States. For its part, the United States defines its relations with the other states in the region politically, militarily, and economically in light of Israeli interests. Syria opposes this policy. Under the present American administration, the United States is hurrying to tighten its control; so it has resorted to threats in the case of Syria and to force in the case of Libya. This has not influenced our policy and course. I believe that so inflammatory a policy as this not only is destined to fail, but that there is a major crisis in store for it.

[Question] The war between your ally, the Amal Movement, and the Palestinian camps scarcely abated before erupting anew. Amal rejects the return of the Palestinians to Lebanon. Do you support them in this

rejection of theirs? What ideas do you have about legalizing the Pales
Palestinian presence in Lebanon?

[Answer] In this area, I would like to point out that the Amal Movement, which is fighting the Israelis in the South, does not bear responsibility for the explosion around the camps. Amal has borne and is bearing the brunt of national resistance operations in the South. It cannot resort to opening a conflict with any Palestinian party. The eruption around the camps is bound up with the policy of certain Palestinian parties who are trying to tighten their control over Beirut again and to create a state of confessional conflict that would enable this party to ride the wave of one of the confessional parties in order to come back and impose its influence on Beirut. This Palestinian party believes that it must regain Beirut so that it will have a seat at an imaginary negotiating table, as I indicated a short while ago. Rejection of this path has not come only from Amal, but from all Islamic and nationalistic personalities and forces in Lebanon. If we were to go back to the communique that came out of the most recent expanded Islamic meeting in Damascus, we would find that there is a clear paragraph about this question and about the return of this faction that wants to bring back a situation that played a fundamental role in the collapse that Lebanon witnessed and in all that the Lebanese and Palestinians have suffered. As for the presence of our brothers, the Palestinians, in Lebanon, there is national consensus on ending the suffering that they experienced prior to the seventies. The nationalistic personalities and forces are pledged to regularizing the Palestinian presence in the framework of the Damascus Agreement signed between the Palestine National Salvation Front and the Lebanese National Forces last year.

12937/9190

CSO: 4404/435

ARAB COSMONAUTS HELP SOVIET SATELLITE MARKETING

London MEED in English 26 Jul 86 p 24

[Article by Ivan Berenyi]

[Text]

Two Syrian cosmonauts, about to be launched into space aboard a Soviet spaceship, have become part of a drive by Moscow to sell launch facilities for commercial and mili-

tary satellites. The flight preparations of the cosmonauts — Munir Habib and Mohammad Faris — have received wide publicity, in an effort to emphasise Soviet space prowess at a time when the US and European space programmes are in severe difficulties.

The Soviet Union is hoping to sell satellite launch facilities to Arab countries, following the setbacks suffered by the rocket launchers of the US' National Aeronautics & Space Administration (NASA) and the European Space Agency (ESA).

The first Arab in space was Saudi Arabia's Prince Sultan Ibn Salman Ibn Abdel-Aziz, who was part of a crew on NASA's shuttle programme before the early-1986 launch disaster in which seven American astronauts

died. ESA, which launched two satellites for the Arab Satellite Communications Organisation in 1985 has recently been obliged to redesign its launch rockets.

The problems of NASA and ESA have left the field open to other countries with satellite launch facilities, in particular the Soviet Union and China.

For the Syrian cosmonauts' training, the Soviet Union has equipped a swimming pool in Star City, complete with a mock-up of the Salyut space station and underwater photo-

graphic facilities. The maximum publicity surrounding the Syrians' preparations coincides with the start of a worldwide marketing push by Kozmos, the recently formed subsidiary of the Licensitorg foreign trading company. Kozmos is offering to put into orbit and lease satellites at rates undercutting the Chinese.

/9317

CSO: 4400/260

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN HADRAMAWT EXAMINED

Aden AL-SHARARAH in Arabic 5 June 86 p 4

[Article by 'Ali Salih Baqi: "Industrial Development in Hadramawt, Where To?"]

[Text] Industry in our country never witnessed such progress as it does today. There are now more than forty factories in the capital run by very qualified Yemeni cadres.

The current industrial development in the country did not rise out of a vacuum, but is rather firmly linked with all of the successes related to either agriculture or productivity or other facets linked to people's lives.

Industry being a form of material progress directly points to the quality and the form of the social and political systems through this country's economic structure and industrial work.

An industrial sector in our country is being established which is in keeping with our Yemeni Socialist Party's policy and which is not established through financial monopolization. This strong economic sector is based on a researched plan, and its implementation is carried out by all sectors of our nation.

Industry in our country has played and is generally playing a great role in the economic, material and social renaissance and is accelerating the politization of the active economic infrastructure which is capable of improving the lives of our working people on one hand and which is linked to the strength and development of the social structure and all ideals and values on the other hand.

Perhaps implementation of the social and economic plans in the country gave the industrial sector a great deal of durability and activity linked to the rest of the economic sectors especially agriculture.

Perhaps the reader wonders whether there is in the Hadramawt Province an industrial sector in its true sense or whether the Hadhramawt Province is still under industrial development!

This question we addressed to Brother 'Umar Faraj Bazfari, director of the ministry of industry branch in Hadramawt Province, who said: "Yes, in

the Hadramawt Province, there is an industrial sector and it is expected that the value of industrial productivity in the province will rise during the third 5-year plan for economic and social development for the years 1986-1990 to 2,330,269 dinars.

[Question] What are the industrial plans that are intended to be carried out during the planning period?

[Answer] During this period, a number of industrial plans in the province will be implemented, among which are the establishment of a unit for bottling carbonated water, a unit for bottling propane gas, another unit for plating, another for sponges, in addition to a factory for health-related materials, white floor tiles, an automated bakery in Say'un, a group of industries for construction materials and a candy factory, in addition to the surveying and the study of industrial development in the province.

[Question] What percentage of the industrial sector plan was implemented in the province during the year 1985?

[Answer] The percentage of the industrial sector plan in the province of Hadramawt during 1985 amounted to 107 percent, valued at 2,192,671 dinars, an increase of 137,159 dinars over the plan; whereas the percentage of implementing the plans of the public, private, cooperative and mixed sectors reached between 108 and 127.67 percent.

[Question] What were the sales of the industrial sector of the Hadramawt province during the last period?

The industrial sector in the province realized in 1985 total sales of 112 percent, an increase of 45,000 dinars. We would like to point out here that the productivity of the work in the industrial realm realized a large increase during the period of 1982-1985, from 2,281 dinars in 1982 to 3,099 dinars in 1985, and the net profit realized in 1985 amounted to 154,957 dinars over 1982.

[Question] What are the most outstanding industrial projects which were established in the province recently?

[Answer] A number of industrial projects were established in the province, among which are an automated bakery in both of the cities of al-Mukalla and al-Shahir and an aluminum factory in the cities of al-Mukalla and Say'un. Currently, there is work on a factory of gypsum and chalk in the city of Ghil Bawzir, the completion of the cooperatives on the coastal line, the establishment of two units for upholstery and engraving in the women's sewing cooperative in al-Mukalla, development of the marketing of industrial products of the factory of gypsum and chalk at Ghil-Bawzir center and the women's sewing cooperative in Hadramawt province. It remains for us to point out here that the industrial sector in our country witnesses indeed a great development which is in keeping with the other material needs required by the next stage.

13035/12899

CSO: 4404/388

GOVERNMENT TROOPS KILLED, INJURED IN CLASH WITH MUJAHIDIN

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 30 Jul 86 p 1

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (Dispatches) — Afghan government troops suffered 100 dead and injured and Islamic guerrillas lost 20 fighters in some of the fiercest fighting in recent weeks, Western diplomats said Tuesday.

The fighting took place on the road between Qandahar and Ghazni, southwest of the Afghan capital of Kabul, over the last few days, but the reports gave no further details.

The Mujahideen death toll was among the heaviest of recent months, said Western diplomats who declined to be identified further.

The Mujahideen attack was in retaliation for Afghan Air Force bombing runs July 22 near Lowgar, south of Kabul. The battle lasted five hours and was described by one diplomat as "one of the fiercest in recent weeks."

The Mujahideen control the major part of the south-eastern city of Qandahar and are at their strongest in the area in many years, diplomats said. The Mujahideen also control all but the first 10 kilometers (six miles) of the Qandahar-Herat road.

In Lowgar, diplomatic sources said five vehicles were destroyed when guerrillas ambushed a Soviet and Afghan military convoy of tanks, armored personnel carriers and trucks July 23.

Another military convoy was attacked July 24 at Koh-e-Sufaid Sang, also in Lowgar. Four vehicles were destroyed by rocket fire, and 10 Soviets were captured, according to the diplomats.

They said 10 Afghan government troops were killed last week in Hilmand, southwest of Kabul, in a guerrilla attack.

Two guerrilla rockets hit a Soviet military complex outside Kabul during the night of July 21, killing five Soviet soldiers. One Afghan soldier was killed when a rocket hit a Jeep.

Guerrilla rockets have also slammed into the capital in the last week. Six to eight rockets hit various targets while 17 to 22 explosions were recorded in various areas housing such important facilities as the Defense Ministry, the Soviet Embassy and the area close to Prime Minister Sultan Ali Kistmand's residence.

The damage has not been ascertained, the diplomats said.

Heavy military movement was reported by the diplomats in and around Kabul between July 24 and 27. They reported "exceptionally heavy" air activity south and southwest of Kabul July 24.

A major Soviet armored convoy, including new tanks, were seen departing Kabul, possibly to support Soviet military operations in the area. Another, larger convoy left Kabul in the same direction July 26, diplomats said.

ERSHAD VISIT TO, ACTIVITIES IN PAKISTAN REPORTED

Speech at 26 Jul Banquet

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 27 Jul 86 pp 1, 8

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, July 26 (BSS): President Hussain Muhammad Ershad said here tonight that the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) can be a most effective instrument for forging better understanding and amity among the seven nations of the region.

Speaking at a banquet given in his honour by Pakistan President Zia-ul-Haq, President Ershad said since the launching of the SAARC in December last year, efforts have been put in to consolidate what has been ground accomplished and to prepare the for a more dynamic phase of cooperation in the near future.

President Ershad who is the current Chairman of the SAARC said he is convinced during his tour of the SAARC member countries that all the nations have common vision of SAARC. The rationale and justification for a regional framework in South Asia are so cogent, compelling and patent that the only surprising thing is that no attempt towards this objective was made before, he observed.

The President said Bangladesh and Pakistan share common perception of many political and economic issues and concerted their actions in different international fora as

members of the United Nations. Organisation of Islamic conference and non-Aligned Movement. "We remain committed to consolidate and further strengthen our relations in all fields and to work together for the promotion of international peace and security."

Referring to the present international economic and political situation, he said a partial recovery of the past three years has been selective and has by-passed most of the developing countries. A sharp fall in the official development assistance, high rate of interest, fluctuating exchange rate and falling commodity prices have impeded the pace of development efforts of many of our countries, he pointed out.

President Ershad gave a bleak picture of the world political front infested with arms race and diversion of scarce resources for production of deadly and sophisticated weapons and reiterated Bangladesh support for a solution of the Afghan issue on the basis of the UN resolution. He wished all success of the on-going negotiation in the matter under the auspices of the special representative of the UN Secretary General.

The President expressed his firm commitment to a solution

of the Palestinian issue and regretted that in spite of the several peace initiatives including the one under the auspices of the OIC, there has been an escalation recently in the war between Iran and Iraq. He also expressed the condemnation of his country in the strongest terms of the repressive measures undertaken by the racist Pretoria regime against the majority of the country's population.

He noted with happiness that the cooperation between Bangladesh and Pakistan in the fields of education, culture, communication, trade and commerce has increased over the years. He recalled the visit of President Zia-ul-Haq to Bangladesh after the devastating cyclone and during the SAARC summit and said his current visit will further strengthen the relations between the two countries and widen the scope of bilateral cooperation.

President Ershad referred to the achievements since his assumption of office in 1982 and said one development that has given him great personal satisfaction is the election of parliament last May. 'This is a concrete and most significant step toward the redemption of pledge that I had made to the nation for the establishment of a dynamic and representative polity.'

Trade Accord Signed

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 28 Jul 86 pp 1, 8

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, July 27: Bangladesh and Pakistan today signed an agreement on special trade arrangement, a Memorandum of Understanding for exchanging land in their respective diplomatic enclaves for establishing their permanent chanceries in each other's capital and a programme under cultural agreement, reports BSS.

Bangladesh Ambassador to Pakistan Abul Ahsan signed the Memorandum for exchange of land and the programme under cultural agreement on behalf of his government while from Pakistan side there were initiated by Chairman, Capital Development Authority Mashar Rauf and Education Secretary Sayeed Qureshi respectively.

The special trade agreement between the two countries was signed by Chairman Trading Corporation of Bangladesh Brig (Retd) A KM Azizul Islam and Chairman, Trading Corporation of Pakistan Hussain Habib on behalf of their respective governments.

Under the agreement for special trade agreement, the two-

state trading corporations will make purchases of goods and commodities for a total value of US dollars 40 million each way annually.

Rupali Bank of Bangladesh side and National Bank of Pakistan have been designated for performing banking formalities in this respect.

The items of exports from Bangladesh have been identified as raw jute, jute goods, tea, newsprint, writing and printing paper, telephone cable and telecommunication equipment and fruits and fruits preparation. While the Pakistan export list includes raw cotton, pig iron, hard coke, cotton yarn, thread and fabric, surgical instrument, cement, clinker, fruit and fruit preparation, machinery, tools and workshop equipment.

The Foreign Minister of Bangladesh and Pakistan Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury and Shahihrada Yaqub Khan were present on the occasion.

/9317

CSO: 4600/1037

HASINA ADDRESSES ALLIANCE PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 24 Jul 86 pp 1, 8

[Text]

Sheikh Hasina, leader of the Eight-party alliance last night said that the government party should take concrete steps in the Parliament to lift martial law then they would consider whether to go or not to go to the House.

The nominated Prime Minister has called upon us that if we go to the House martial law will be withdrawn. They are confusing the people with such remarks. Instead of making empty sounds, must take concrete steps in this regard, then we shall consider it, she said.

Sheikh Hasina said that absence of a large number of members had the turned the Parliament meaningless. She termed the parliament session as a paralysed one where some people had only prised like blind the President.

Sheikh Hasina said that she was doubtful whether President Ershad would lift martial law even after the presidential elections and observed that without martial law he can not win it. She said example was there in Pakistan where it continued. Defending her decision to boycott the inaugural session of the Parliament she reiterated that if the government were sincere it could have introduced a bill in the house to lift martial law. If they had introduced such a bill we might have considered it. But we saw nothing apart from speeches by ministers.

Sheikh Hasina's reply to the Prime Ministers call to the

opposition Tuesday came at the closing session of the Eight-party alliance's parliamentary groups meeting held at the Committee Room of the Jatiya Sangsad at 9-02 p.m. yesterday.

Winding up the five-hour long meeting that was held for nine-days after their session went into an indefinite adjournment on July 10, Sheikh Hasina also declared that their "movement will continue to press for ending the martial law.

Demanding resignation of President Ershad the Awami League chief in her 47 minute speech also called for handing over power to the Parliament and withdrawal of martial law.

She remarked that if the Constitution of 1972 was revived simultaneously then there would not be any constitutional vacuum in the country after lifting of the martial law.

However Sheikh Hasina strongly defended the introduction of the one-party rule under BKSAL by Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in January 25, 1975. 'It was not an one-party rule but a multi-party system of government under one party politics when Bangladesh Krishak Sramik Awami League was formed by Bangabandhu with representatives of all parties, administration, armed forces, journalists, doctors, teachers and other professionals; she added.

She said that one party rule means running of the government by a single party, as the Awami League or the BNP had done in the past. Awami League

could run the country for a long period if Bangabandhu wanted it. But he wanted to save the country from the clutches of those who were defeated in 1971.

She said that the 'programme of BKSAL was for the emancipation of the people.' It was a correct step. Had it been implemented the country would not have been facing so many crises", the Awami League chief observed.

Coming back to the alliance and Awami League decision to join the parliamentary polls she said, despite 'ballot dacoity' the greatest success "we could achieve was to hit the process of power politics that began in mid-1975."

On the presidential polls in October Sheikh Hasina remarked that general Ershad might be thinking that he would elect himself. But people had realised the situation after what they have seen in May 7 polls. They will not allow such a situation again she added.

She warned against forcing anything upon the people and commented that the country was being pushed towards a confrontation. If there was confrontation the ambitious generals would have to bear the responsibility, she remarked.

'The general's game must come to an end. It must be decided whether the arms will command politics or the politics will command the arms' Sheikh Hasina said.

In this connection she referred to the formation of what she said a security force

for the president through a Gazette notification on June 19.

Sheikh Hasina demanded release of Mohiuddin and Biswajit Nandy who were sentenced to death and others sentenced by martial law courts. She also demanded return of Kader Siddiky from political asylum in India. She also demanded the right of appeal to those who were convicted by military courts.

Earlier, Awami League Presidium member Zillur Rahman in his speech urged Sheikh Hasina to consider whether they should resign and what would happen if they did so. It would only help the President to get his own people elected in our vacant seats. If the Parliament was dissolved today and elections were held in six months, whether we shall be able to achieve the present

strength in the face of more massive rigging, should also be considered, he added.

Mohammad Nasim, party's Youth Affairs secretary, blasted at whom he termed extreme rightists and extreme leftists for prolonging martial law in the name of movement and helping the President.

The meeting was presided over by Sheikh Hasina. It was attended by 38 MPs and a large number of visitors who had taken the opportunity to visit the Parliament and attend the meeting as there were no restriction since the Parliament was prorogued Tuesday.

Those who participated in discussions on the President's address yesterday included Mohammad Ishaque, Mohiuddin Ahmed, Asbeque Rahman, Mosharraf Hossain, Azizur Rahman, Nuful Huq, M. A. Khair of Awami League and Shahno-waz of CPB.

/13046

CSO: 4600/1035

EIGHT-PARTY ALLIANCE MP'S CALL FOR PARLIAMENT SESSION

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 27 Jul 86 pp 1, 8

[Text]

Ninety-six MPs of the Eight-party Alliance have demanded holding of a fresh session of the Parliament as a 'positive' step towards withdrawal of the martial law and martial law administration and establishment of the constitutional rule to pave the way for overcoming the present political crisis and resolving various national issues.

In a joint statement issued yesterday they said that they had been compelled to boycott the parliamentary session as a part of their process of movement.

Three MPs of JSD (Siraj) and one of three Baksal MPs, Shaqul Islam Khoka did not sign the statement.

Signatories to the statement include Sheikh Hasina, Abdul Malek Ukil, Zillur Rahman, Mohammad Farhad, Chowdhury Harun-or-Rashid, Pir Habbibur

Rahman, Tofail Ahmed, Sardar Amjad Hossain, Shah Mohammad Abu Zafar, Rashed Mosharraf, Maj Gen (Retd) Khalilur Rahman, Satish Chandra Roy and Suranjit Sen Gupta.

They said that Parliament and martial law could not run together as under the martial law and martial law administration the Parliament remained shackled and it could not play any effective role.

They said that their earlier pronouncements in this connection had been proved. The Parliamentary session was abruptly prorogued without taking any

step with regard to important national issues including withdrawal of the martial law and martial law administration, they added.

They alleged that a conspiracy to reduce the parliament—a basic institution of democratic system—to a ridiculous and unimportant body was going to be implemented.

They said that flattery of the CMLA and denouncement of the opposition had constituted main topics of discussion in the first session of the Parliament.

Referring to the call of the Prime Minister to all 330 MPs to work out the ways and means for lifting martial law collectively they questioned the ruling party as to what it had done in the Parliament—not even a bill was placed to achieve this objective.

They observed that it was evident the Government was not willing at all to get the martial law and martial law administration withdrawn. Rather it is agog to hold the presidential election under the cover of martial law, they said.

They sounded a note of warning that holding of presidential election would not help overcome the national crisis.

They called upon the people to carry on the movement in support of the demands for withdrawal of the martial law and martial law administration and establishment of the constitutional rule.

ANTISMUGGLING EFFORTS FOR FIRST HALF YEAR REVIEWED

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 28 Jul 86 pp 1, 8

[Text]

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) seized about Taka 13 crore worth of smuggled goods during the first six months of the current year. Col. Syed Anwarul Zakir, Director (Operation) of BDR told newsmen Sunday. Incoming goods worth Taka 8.66 crore and outgoing goods worth of Taka 4.26 crore were seized during the period. A total of 4,700 cases were registered and 1,623 persons were arrested for smuggling.

The BDR had seized goods worth Taka 24.56 crore, registered 8,683 cases in which a total of 4,663 persons were arrested in 1985.

The BDR Director, however pointed out that the land route smuggling along the border involved the smaller portion of country's total smuggling while the biggest haul generally pass along the water routes.

According to BDR authorities the largest portion of the smuggled goods come from India. During the period

goods worth of Taka 10.26 crore was seized along the western border. Of the amount goods of Taka 4.57 was seized along the border under Rajshahi sector, Taka 2.63 crore along the border of Khulna sector and goods of Taka 1.81 crore was seized in Dinajpur sector.

Sarees, other cloths, imitation ornaments, machinery parts, skin, were the main item smuggled in the country from India while goods smuggled out from the country India included old garments new polyester cloths, fish, milk-powder, gold, electronic goods, palm oil, medicine and dry chilly.

Similarly goods which are smuggled out of Bangladesh to Burma included baby food, old garments, bicycle parts and family planning condom.

Referring to the large scale marketing of Indian sarees in the country Colonel Zakir pointed out that a bulk of Indian

sarees entered the country through legal channels every day following the permission for carrying six sarees from India by each of the Bangladeshi travellers.

He proposed that BDR should be allowed to intervene into the distribution points and markets inside the country too.

The BDR Director was of the view that their operation zone should be extended beyond the present limit upto five miles inside the border.

Necessary amendments should be made in existing laws against smuggling, specially along the border, for efficient control of the crime he added.

The Director further observed that the existing strength of border out posts (BOP) was inadequate to cope with the smuggling along the border. Strength of the BDR should be increased by three times of the present 32 battalions, the authorities felt.

/9317

CSO: 4600/1037

BRIEFS

NATIONAL AWAMI PARTY--National Awami Party chief Prof Muzaffar Ahmed said on Sunday that his party was neither communist nor bourgeoisie but aimed at establishing "non-Marxist socialism." Addressing a discussion meeting organised at the party's central office in connection with the celebration of the party's 29th founding anniversary, Prof Ahmed said that movement for socialism could be strengthened only by shunning the past of extreme right and extreme left. He urged the Government to lift Martial Law and help the opposition to enter the parliament. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 29 Jul 86 p 3] /9317

NEW MONGOLIAN AMBASSADOR--Mr Oyuny Khosbayar has been appointed Ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Mongolian People's Republic to Bangladesh with residence New Delhi, according to an official Press release, reports BSS. Born in 1923, Mr Khosbayar joined foreign service in 1951 and held various important positions at home and abroad and was appointed his country's Ambassador to India on October 15, 1985. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 26 Jul 86 p 3] /9317

COOPERATION WITH INDIA--Bangladesh and India on Tuesday signed agreed minutes for mutual cooperation between them in the implementation of development projects covered under Joint Committee on Industries of the two countries, reports BSS. A Press release of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) said the agreed minutes were signed following four days of deliberations of Bangladesh-India Joint Economic Commission's Industrial Committee held at the Corporation's conference room here. Mr N.H. Khan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Industries and Mr S.K. Lal, Joint Secretary, Department of Industries and leader of the visiting team, signed the agreed minutes on behalf of their respective governments. Cement, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, sugar, steel and small cottage industries are the fields for which agreed minutes for mutual cooperation were signed, the Press release added. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 24 Jul 86 p 3] /9317

MUSLIM LEAGUE STAND--Bangladesh Muslim League (Huda) will boycott presidential election scheduled to be held in October this year if any person from the Armed Forces contest that election. The decision to boycott presidential election in the case of participation of any member from armed services was taken at the emergency meeting of the party held on Monday with

party chief Alhai Shamsul Huda in the chair. The meeting discussed in detail the prevailing socio-political situation in the country. Central leaders of the party Messrs Rashiduzzaman, Jamir Ali and others participated in the discussion. The meeting in a resolution termed the cases filed against BNP chief Begum Khaleda Zia and others by the government as an attempt to blackmail opposition political leaders and demanded immediate withdrawal of cases filed against Khaleda Zia and other political leaders. In another resolution Muslim League central committee demanded fixation of minimum price of maund of jute at Tk 500 and emergency steps to save jute from international conspiracy. The meeting also expressed deep concern at the anti-Muslim riots in 'secular' India and urged Muslim countries to exert their influence to stop anti-Muslim riots in India. [Text] [Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 24 Jul 86 p 3] /9317

HASINA STATEMENT--Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina has expressed deep concern at the death sentence on three officers of Sonali Bank, Abdur Rashid, Munsur Hossain and Abu Bakar Siddiq Babul. In a statement yesterday she said that the death sentence had been awarded under jurisdiction of martial law at a time when this capital punishment was being done away with in different countries on humanitarian ground. She said that when the people were united to realise the demand for lifting martial law the death sentence under martial law came as a mockery of judiciary. She further said that the conversion of their sentence from life transportation to death sentence by the CMLA was a rare and ugly instance. She said that the accused persons had been punished denying their right of self-defense in order to suppress the plunder and disarray in the banking sector which had resulted from protracted martial law. She demanded commuting the death sentence on the three officers of Sonali Bank and allowing them to appeal to the highest court against the sentence. Justice can be ensured under the civil rule and through trial in the civil courts, she added. [Text] [Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 23 Jul 86 p 8] /9317

PAKISTAN ENVOY'S CREDENTIALS--The Ambassador designate of Pakistan to Bangladesh, Riaz Hussain Khokhar presented his credentials to President Hussain Muhammad Ershad at a simple ceremony held at Bangabhaban Sunday afternoon, reports BSS. While presenting the letter of credence, Mr Khokhar expressed the hope that the bilateral ties between the two countries will improve further to the benefit of the two peoples in the days ahead. Reciprocating, President Ershad assured the envoy of his government's cooperation to him in discharging of his responsibilities. Foreign Secretary Fakruddin Ahmed was present. [Text] [Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 22 Jul 86 p 3] /9318

MUSLIM LEAGUE DENIAL--Bangladesh Muslim League (Kader) has contradicted press reports regarding split in the party. A meeting of the central leaders of the party available in the city was held yesterday with its vice-President Razia Foyez in the chair to discuss the issue. Those spoke in the meeting include party vice-president A.N.M. Yusuf, MP, Matin, Abdul Hannan, Mohammad Sirajuddin, Mohammad Ayenuddin, Amanullah Chowdhury and G.A. Khan. A press statement issued after the meeting and signed by Ayenuddin claimed that the party had remained one and united. It may be pointed out that a press statement issued by A.N.M. Yusuf, MP, denounced Ayenuddin for making certain remarks at a press conference and said that he was not elected leader of the parliamentary party of Muslim League. [Text] [Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 27 Jul 86 pp 1, 8] /9317

DELHI SEEKS TO AVOID CLASH WITH U.S. OVER PRETORIA

Madras THE HINDU in English 21 Jul 86 p 1

[Article by G.K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, July 20.

Due care is being taken by India to avoid, to the extent possible in the present circumstances, a head-on collision with the U.S. on South Africa, while stepping up pressures on Britain within the Commonwealth for imposition of limited sanctions agreed upon last year at the Nassau conference.

The current Indian approach is to let public opinion within the U.S. exert itself against the Reagan administration's policy of "constructive engagement", without giving an anti-American slant to the mounting campaign against the continued Western reluctance to compel the Pretoria regime to respond to the legitimate aspirations of its African population.

As India sees it, Britain is finding itself placed in the un-enviable position of facing dual pressures from the Commonwealth countries as well as its West European allies in its capacity as the current Chairman of the Ministerial Council of the Community with many of its members pressing for firmer action.

Collective crusade: The main burden of upholding the African cause at the coming non-aligned summit in Harare will fall on India which as the outgoing chairman of the movement will be required to set the right tone for the collec-

tive crusade against South Africa's racist regime. The mini-Commonwealth summit in London in early August will serve as a test run for the much bigger exercise at Harare a month later, when a hundred countries will assemble to raise their collective voice against South African racism.

The U.S. has been engaging in quiet diplomacy behind the scenes, cautioning many non-aligned countries against the bilateral consequences of giving an anti-American slant to their rhetoric against this conference. The non-aligned countries do not expect the U.S. to lead the crusade against South Africa, but they would be most unhappy to see the Reagan administration unwittingly placing itself at the forefront of those opposing the imposition of sanctions.

The African countries are waiting to see what Mr. Reagan has to say when he speaks on South Africa on Tuesday, since he has to mollify the mounting criticism in the U.S. itself about his softness towards the Pretoria regime. It would be a big mistake on his part if he decides to go along with Mrs. Thatcher in opposing tougher sanctions in the name of quid pro quo for her all-out support to the U.S. over the Libyan issue.

/9317

CSO: 4600/1013

CPI LEADER DISCUSSES BHOPAL IN LOK SABHA

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 23 Jul 86 p 1

[Text]

NEW DELHI, July 22

EIGHTEEN months after the Bhopal gas tragedy, not a single paisa has been paid as compensation either to the bereaved or to the disabled, the Lok Sabha was told during question time today.

Replying to the leader of the CPI group, Mr. Indrajit Gupta's complaint about failure to compensate the victims, the minister of state for public enterprises, Mr. K. K. Tiwari, claimed Rs. 50 crores had been spent.

But the CPI member was quick to point out that this was relief and in no way close to compensation. Mr. Tiwari replied that it would have to be decided by court.

The minister said some American lawyers have arrived in India and the

attorney-general, with a team of legal experts, was preparing to fight the case against Union Carbide at the court of the district judge, Bhopal.

Mr. Atand Singh and Mr. Krishna Singh, both Congress, asked what steps the government was taking to ensure that the funds of Union Carbide were not transferred to its sister concerns. Mr. Tiwari assured them that a close watch was being kept.

Asked if the victims would get less compensation because the case was being tried in India, the minister said only legal experts could decide that.

The Lok Sabha speaker, Mr. Balram Jaiswal, shared the concern of the members and asked the government to vigorously pursue the case on a "war footing".

/13046

CSO: 4600/1981

WEINBERGER INDIA VISIT CALLED MOVE TO CLOSE RIFT

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 26 Jul 86 p 1

[Article by J.N. Parimoo]

[Text]

WASHINGTON, July 24.

AMID reports of growing disenchantment in Delhi over U.S. unwillingness to supply arms and related technologies, the White House has decided to send the defence secretary Mr. Casper Weinberger on a visit to India.

The visit, as one official put it, was to renew "the spirit of goodwill and co-operation that was evinced during and immediately after Mr. Rajiv Gandhi's Washington visit last year."

The visit, Mr. Weinberger's first to India, is scheduled for late September or early October. In preparation for it, instructions have been issued, it is learnt, to the reluctant bureaucracy in Pentagon to speed up the clearance of the pending Indian licences and to sort out all the remaining differences over some of these licences with the department of state.

It had been hoped that the memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed by India would clear all the hurdles and pave the way for a quicker and smoother transfer of U.S. technology. In signing the MOU, India, for the first time, formally accepted the terms and conditions dictated by another sovereign state (the American government) in relation to the non-releasability of the transferred technology. It is true that there has been an informal understanding with other governments but never a formal agreement. In signing the MOU, India walked an extra mile to address American concerns but some elements in the Pentagon do not think that India has gone far enough.

The MOU is meant to cover the

transfer of what is known as "dual use technology". The term "dual use" applies to all such civilian technology that can also be used for military purposes. Take for instance the transport aircraft, IL-100, made by the Lockheed Corporation. In its military configuration, this plane is called C-130. This would be a textbook case of dual use technology. Then there are the utility helicopters like Bell Huey and Sikorsky S-76 or heavy duty vehicles with 24-volt electrical systems. India has shown interest in some of these technologies.

The U.S. defence department has taken the position that the MOU signed by India does not apply to technology that is licensed under the "U.S. munitions lists constraints" and that unless and until India signs separately a general security of military information agreement (GSOMIA), Pentagon will continue to make its present case-by-case approach to India licences. This case-by-case approach, it may be recalled, has always been heavily tilted against any U.S. technology going to India.

Pentagon's persistent unwillingness to transfer technology to India has raised the important question: to meet its growing need for arms and arms-related technologies, can India ever look upon the U.S. as a dependable alternative to the Soviet Union. Weinberger may have to answer that question when he visits Delhi.

There are many other knots that may have to be untied to renew the spirit of warmth and camaraderie that characterised the Rajiv visit to the U.S. take for instance the technical licence to be issued to Northrop Corporation

for the sale and co-production of its F-20 technology. Actually the licence has to be renewed: it is not a new licence. A technical licence was issued to Northrop way back in 1981-82 to enable it to sell F-20 planes and enter into a programme of co-production with India.

The licence was suspended in 1985 and has not been renewed since. Why, no one knows. A couple of years ago Northrop was going abegging with its F-20 planes: there were no takers. There is nothing secret about this technology because all the blueprints and computerised test performance results were disclosed to the Indian Air Force in 1981-82 when Northrop made its first presentation of the plane.

India has not even asked for the F-20 plane technology. It is the Northrop Corporation that thinks that its plane F-20 encompasses all the avionics and other technologies that India wants for its LCA (light combat aircraft). There are reliable indications that General Dynamics, makers of the well-known plane F-16, might jump into the act. They may offer the F-16 technology for the Indian LCA. Another leading aircraft making company, the Rockwell, has also shown interest in the Indian LCA. A Rockwell team was in India early this month for this purpose.

While some of the U.S.A.'s leading aircraft makers are showing increased interest in the Indian LCA, Pentagon is sitting on the Northrop licence. On March 31, the under-secretary of state Mr. Fred Ikle, informed the then Indian ambassador, Mr. Shankar Bajpai, that the Northrop licences would be issued in a matter of days.

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON JUNEJO VISIT TO WASHINGTON

Surveillance Aircraft Sought

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 27 Jul 86 p 7

[Article by J.N. Parimoo]

[Text]

WASHINGTON, July 26.

THE only military issue that came up for discussion during the Pakistani Prime Minister, Mr. M. K. Junejo's meeting with President Reagan at the White House was Pakistan's urgent need for surveillance planes.

According to a source, President Reagan accepted in principle the argument that Pakistan urgently needed some dependable airborne warning and control system that would help it ward off increasing attacks from across the Afghan border.

But what these surveillance planes should be could not be decided at the meeting. The Pentagon has been asked to discuss with the Pakistani air force the nature of its surveillance requirements and decide on a suitable system.

Pakistan has rejected E-2 surveillance planes, known as Hawkeyes on the ground that these are too expensive. It is believed that the Pentagon is now considering the balloon-borne warning and control system known as Aerostats. These are huge balloons carrying look-down radar dishes to watch for low-flying planes.

Six years ago a Pakistani expert team had been taken to Key West to watch the performance of Aerostats but at the time Pakistan wanted to buy something more sophisticated and expensive. Now it seems, they are reconsidering the matter.

Aerostats are of World War Two vintage but have been somewhat upgraded. If Pakistan is now willing to buy them, it is primarily because Hawkeyes are too expensive. Pakistan would need at least four Hawkeyes to guard the 800-odd miles of its border. At current rates, this would cost it a little less than one billion dollars.

The Pakistani air force has already got the lion's share of the current \$3.2 billion aid package. According

to Pakistani plans, the major share of the next \$4.02 billion aid package would go to the navy and army. The air force has, therefore, to find some less costly but efficient warning system and the Americans are eager to oblige.

Mr. Junejo had brought with him his chief of air staff to explain to the Americans how badly he needed airborne warning and control system planes in view of the increased air attacks from across the Afghan border. The air chief pleaded that the 40 F-16s supplied by the U.S. were ineffective without an efficient advance air warning system. He said the Afghan planes had adopted the strategy of first flying very low to evade radar detection while crossing the border and then launching lightning attacks. Before the Pakistani interceptors (planes) could go into the air, the attacking Afghan planes were back in their territory. According to the Pakistanis, there were as many Afghan-Soviet incursions across the border during the first six months of this year as in the whole of 1985.

The U.S. Congress is currently considering an administration proposal to deploy five aerostats on the Mexican border to combat drug trafficking. There are indications that the Pakistanis might ask for Aerostats at subsidised rates or even free, on a grant basis, on the plea that these air surveillance balloons would be used to spot drug traffickers. There are many Pakistani friends in the American bureaucracy who would readily accept that plea.

During Mr. Junejo's visit, there were no discussions on the military hardware that would go to Pakistan as part of the next \$4.02 billion aid package but the Pakistani Prime Minister was assured at every level of the Reagan administration that Congress would not be allowed to reduce the size of the aid package in any way.

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA In English 26 Jul 86 p 8

[Article by A.S. Abraham]

[Text]

INDO-PAKISTANI relations have not improved as a result of Pakistan's recent, intensified efforts to cozy up to the United States. First, General Zia-ul-Haq made the absurd accusation, which he soon, and wisely, retracted, that India was secretly financing Ms. Benazir Bhutto. Then, every time the Pakistani prime minister, Mr. M. K. Junejo, was cornered during his recent visit to the U.S. about Pakistani nuclear intentions, he took refuge in bracketing his country with India; as if to suggest he would feel much better if the latter were subjected to the same interrogation about nuclear matters. Finally, Mr. Junejo went so far as to charge India, specifically Mrs. Indira Gandhi, with planning to wage war against Pakistan in May 1984.

But these were starters for the banquet of enthusiastic Pakistani compliance in U.S. designs that Islamabad has long been serving up to the Americans and which it has sought to make even more lavish since Ms. Bhutto returned to Pakistan to stir things up. If Pakistan is eager to further U.S. interests in the region, particularly Afghanistan, it seeks no less to prise India out of America's favour. The two go in tandem. Pakistan must be seen as America's most reliable regional ally, as Israel is in west Asia. But more, the Americans must be persuaded to see India, not as the main instrument of regional stability, which it is and which the Americans however grudgingly acknowledge, but as a covert, proxy promoter of Soviet interests.

When *The Washington Post* published a story on the eve of Mr. Junejo's visit about how a Soviet warning to Pakistan over its nuclear activities brought the Soviets a sharp rebuke from the U.S., "the immediate impetus for the Soviet warning", according to "Reagan administration sources" on which the *Post* item was based, "is believed to have been the visit to Moscow in mid-June by the Indian foreign minister, Mr. P. Shiv Shankar, who reportedly

complained vociferously about Pakistan's nuclear efforts". No prizes for guessing how "Washington officials" found out about these "vociferous" Indian protests.

Soviet Interests

The object of such inspired leaks, of the insinuations and accusations from the highest Pakistani quarters, is to link India in American minds with the advancement of Soviet interests and, flowing from that, with the destabilisation of the Zia regime. Naturally, the case goes, were India to succeed in accomplishing these, then U.S. strategic objectives in Afghanistan would be set back, if not nullified. So the U.S. would be well-advised to distance itself from India in the realisation that its interests are better served by strengthening its links with Pakistan. General Zia would also prefer to see the U.S. being less ambivalent about Ms. Bhutto's challenge to him, and if she can be portrayed as playing, with supposed Indian help, a similar destabilising game from which only the Soviets would gain, then he is that much closer to making the U.S. line up more positively behind him.

Pakistan is, of course, nowhere near bringing about such a major change in U.S. perceptions of the political balance of forces in the subcontinent. But it is trying its hardest to alter those perceptions in its favour. Hence its attempt to sell its new-found democratic image to Washington in general and to the U.S. Congress in particular, an attempt of which Mr. Junejo's visit was a crucial part. The Zia regime is, no doubt, anxious to ensure that the next chunk of aid, worth just over four billion dollars, that the Reagan administration has decided to give it should win Congressional sanction, especially in view of grave Congressional misgivings about its nuclear capability and intentions and its non-democratic character. But while on both counts Mr. Junejo, helped by a sympathetic Reagan administration, was at pains to reassure the numerous doubting

Thomasess, his aim in doing so was more than just to smooth the passage of the prospective aid. The more important goal was to impress on the Americans that Pakistan — General Zia's Pakistan, that is, not Ms. Bhutto's however remote the prospect of that coming about may be — is the ultimate regional ally they must depend on to promote their interests.

In some respects, the Pakistanis have succeeded in creating a more favourable image of themselves in American minds. The secret agreement they signed on the sale of sensitive U.S. technology to them, on the lines of that signed last year between India and the U.S., was one sign of this success. Another was the muting of American concern about their nuclear objectives. According to U.S. officials, the technology agreement includes "tough guarantees" that the equipment Pakistan buys will not be used in its nuclear programme. Mr. Reagan is also said to have told Mr. Junejo that if Pakistan got a nuclear bomb, all American military and economic aid would be cut off. Publicly, however, as reflected for instance in the Reagan-Junejo communique, there has been no specific American rebuke, warning or exhortation against Pakistani nuclear development.

Positive Aspects

What has been made a great deal of, as much by the Reagan administration as by Islamabad, is Pakistan's "return" to democracy and the mounting Soviet pressures it must contend with on Afghanistan. The concentration on these "positive" aspects not only helped to soften U.S. reservations about Pakistan's nuclear inclinations and the nature of the Zia regime, they also emphasised Pakistan's "front-line" role vis-a-vis the Soviet presence in Afghanistan. Helping it to resist the Soviet presence in Afghanistan becomes not only important to the Americans, but also right in view of what is held out to be Pakistan's own gradual return to "representative democracy". The lack of democracy has never prevented — indeed, may

have facilitated — an American alliance with a country willing to shore up U.S. strategic goals. But the onset of democracy (for instance, in the Philippines today) makes that alliance rest more easily on American shoulders since it is likely to win general support in the U.S. as well as make the Americans feel virtuous about advancing democracy and their own interests simultaneously, instead of the first being subordinated to the second, as is more usually the case.

The Philippines example, though, is not a good one to mention to Americans or Pakistanis just now. The "people power" which swept Mrs. Cory Aquino into office is what Ms. Benazir Bhutto hopes at some stage to be able to draw upon. But the U.S., while it has been careful not to hitch its strategic wagon to General Zia's political star, is not too sure about how safe its interests would be in Ms. Bhutto's hands. She has indicated in interviews to the American media that she would maintain U.S.-Pakistan cordiality. But she has also spoken of following a policy of non-alignment, a word which has disturbing reverberations for the Americans. Which set of signals should they respond to?

But there is no equivocation about the Zia regime's desire for a stronger U.S.-Pakistan alliance that is based on an acknowledgement by the Americans that Pakistan, not India, must be the cornerstone of their regional security and strategy. The present American policy, in Pakistani eyes, of keeping Pakistan happy by aiding it generously, but at the

same time maintaining close links with India in the hope that Indo-U.S. ties will warm up eventually into an effulgent glow of amicability, is galling to the Pakistanis. They have always had a chip on their shoulder about this. The U.S., they have always felt, is interested in a close and solid relationship with them only so long as India, playing hard to get, remains unavailable. The moment Indo-U.S. ties are on the upswing, Pakistan will be relegated to subcontinental second place.

Extracting Funds

That fear motivates their strenuous effort to use the Afghanistan factor not only to extract larger U.S. funds but also, and more importantly, to hammer home to the U.S. that they are the ally the Americans must rely on to secure long-term U.S. strategic objectives. To counter the view that the U.S. cannot bypass the region's obvious leader — obvious for geographical, historical, economic, military and cultural reasons —, the Pakistanis are trying to establish that India, for all its natural dominance, is a Soviet proxy, albeit a discreet one, that one proof of this is its combining with the Russians to put pressure on Pakistan (thereby weakening Islamabad's capacity to serve U.S. interests), and that it seeks to destabilise Pakistan because that would eliminate its only subcontinental rival, and so put it in a stronger position to counter American regional strategy.

It is unlikely that the Pakistanis will make a dent on current U.S. perceptions, even if they have suc-

ceeded somewhat in burnishing their own image in American eyes. So long as Indo-U.S. relations remain erratic and patchy, the U.S. will not cease to bolster Pakistan not as an alternative to but as a check on Indian subcontinental primacy. But beyond that, the U.S. will hesitate to go because it knows that, to quote Francine Frankel, a U.S. specialist on south Asia, writing in the Spring 1986 issue of *Foreign Policy*, India "is not ideologically committed to the Soviet Union or politically embittered against the United States". It knows that while Indian and Soviet interests converge in many respects, they diverge in others. It is aware of Indian apprehensions over the potentially destabilising influence on Pakistan of a permanent and massive Soviet presence in Afghanistan. A U.S.-Pakistan alliance such as the Junejo-Zia regime seems to want might have the effect of furthering the convergence of Indo-Soviet interests.

But although the U.S. is unlikely to be so shortsighted as to succumb to Pakistani blandishments for a strategic tie-up that makes the U.S. all but put its eggs in one basket, it may not have the flexibility or the perspective to allow India enough room for regional manoeuvre without demanding from it a cooling-off of its relations with the Soviets and a corresponding warmth in its ties with the U.S. In other words, the U.S. has to acknowledge the genuineness of Indian regional security concerns and let it do its own thing without trying to queer the pitch by giving Pakistan a disproportionate role in shaping the region's political future.

Relations Seen Unchanged

Madras THE HINDU in English 21 Jul 86 p 6

[Editorial]

[Text]

THE PAKISTAN PRIME MINISTER, Mr. Junejo, had during his visit to Washington held himself out as a democratically elected leader but, given the circumstances under which he assumed office, few would have been impressed. The United States, however, continues to recognise the strategic value of Pakistan; Mr. Reagan has described it as a "frontline State" resisting the spread of communism from out of Soviet-occupied Afghanistan. Mr. Junejo was offered substantial military and economic aid—a package of \$4.2 billions for the next six years has been approved—even as the American President and officials reportedly warned him in private that if Islamabad were to build a nuclear weapon, the aid would be cut off. Washington has again expressed its happiness over the moves for greater cooperation among the countries of South Asia and also what it sees as the steady improvement in the relations between India and Pakistan.

The 1986 message from Washington is qualitatively no different from what it has been all along. While the U.S. administration has taken the formal position and certified to the Congress that Pakistan does not now possess a nuclear weapon and would be eligible for American aid, it still does appear concerned over Islamabad's clandestine efforts to build a bomb. The strong motivation and indeed the publicly expressed goal of making an "Islamic bomb", the creation of an enrichment facility at Kahuta even without the reactors to use the enriched uranium, the hunt for weapons designs and the secret purchases of triggering devices—all these constitute a development that has taken Pakistan very close to a nuclear weapons capability even if, as

some believe, it is not right there yet. To say that this frantic and decade long effort is to counter the threat from a nuclear India is to ignore the reality that New Delhi has been following a self-denying policy of not going in for nuclear weapons even after demonstrating its technological capabilities in the nuclear field. Mr. Junejo's argument that his country would sign the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty and would open up its nuclear installations to outside inspection and safeguards if India did likewise is obviously a diversionary ploy made with the full knowledge that New Delhi would not give up its basic and principled opposition to the discriminatory NPT regime. Under the circumstances, the current American stance cannot but encourage Pakistan to persist with its approach of covering all the fronts—declaring its nuclear programme to be entirely peaceful and denying any intent to produce nuclear weapons, expressing its readiness to place its facilities under international safeguards (if only India too does so) even while building up a nuclear weapons capability, and possibly some weapons too, without announcing it to the rest of the world through an explosion. It is not as if the United States is not aware of what Pakistan's stance and policy amount to exactly, but its obsession is with what it sees as Islamabad's strategic value and it may be this which has made it turn the other way. New Delhi cannot any longer count on foreign pressure halting Pakistan in its nuclear tracks, and the problem is that the effects in the region of a nuclear, or even a near-nuclear, Pakistan could be deeply unsettling.

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EXPERT: SINO-SOVIET TRADE EXPANSION TO AFFECT COUNTRY

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 22 Jul 86 p 1

[Text]

Expansion of Sino-Soviet relation in the economic and commercial fields will affect the bargaining power of India with regard to the Soviet Union, reports Unifin.

Dr V Vithal Babu former deputy-director general of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, in economy and trade has said the growth of commercial ties between the two countries will affect the volume, structure and terms of trade between India and the Soviet Union. It may dampen the prospects for a number of major Indian exports to the Soviet market.

Mr Babu said the Sino-Soviet trade structure is by and large identical with that of Indo-Soviet trade.

According to him, the areas of competition between India and China are potentially considerable in various overseas markets. In the India-China equation, overseas private investors, especially from the United States, may tilt in favour of China with its growing potential for modern technology and investment, he said.

Mr Babu said bilateral relations between the Soviet Union and China have since 1981 been rapidly improving. The visit of Mr Ivan Arkhipov, the Soviet first vice-chairman of the council of ministers, to China in December 1984, culminated in the signing of three agreements dealing with economic, scientific and technological cooperation.

In July this year, a five-year trade agreement was concluded along with a cooperation agreement on China's technical renovation of projects.

China's imports from the Soviet Union will cover major power generating and transmission equipment, plus open-cast coal mine designs for seven new projects. It will involve equipment for 17 renovation projects in the metallurgical, machinery and chemical industries.

China will also import aircraft, automobiles, locomotives, farm machinery, aluminium, copper, platinum, rolled steel, pig iron, timber, urea, cement and chemicals.

China, on the other hand, will export to the Soviet Union, cotton and silk cloth, garments, knitwear, tea, sports shoes, chemicals, general machinery, meat, corn and fruits. "What is noteworthy is that the Sino-Soviet trade structure is by and large identical with that of Indo-Soviet trade", Mr Babu said.

Among the three countries there are distinct areas of complementarities based on comparative advantages in resource endowments, especially iron ore in India, coal in China and non-ferrous metals in the Soviet Union.

Transfer of technology is also possible in certain areas, though cooperation in terms of investible financial resources is not feasible, he said.

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON DEVELOPMENTS IN INDO-PRC RELATIONS

Prelude to Talks

Madras THE HINDU in English 19 Jul 86 p 1

[Article by G.K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, July 18

The External Affairs Minister, Mr. P. Shiv Shankar, told Parliament today that the Foreign Secretary, Mr. A. P. Venkateswaran, who is heading the Indian delegation to the next round of official-level talks in Beijing, will be meeting the acting Chinese Premier, Mr. Wan Li, and the Foreign Minister, Mr. Wu Xueqian, to discuss the latest Chinese intrusion in the Sumdorong Chu valley in the Tawang district of Arunachal Pradesh on the Indian side of the McMahon line.

In a brief statement he made in both the Houses on the subject, Mr. Shiv Shankar assured members that India was keeping a close watch on the situation, while voicing the Government's surprise that China should have intruded into Indian territory in this manner on the eve of the seventh round of talks on the border dispute.

Agreement violation

The External Affairs Minister recalled that at the commencement of the current series of official-level talks in 1981, the two sides agreed in principle that "peace and tranquillity should be maintained along the border and that any problems that arose should be solved through friendly consultations." He implied that the latest Chinese incursion was doubly regrettable since it amounted to not only violation of this mutually binding commitment but also a totally uncalled-for transgression in an area that was clearly, well within Indian territory.

Though the Chinese have rejected the Indian protest claiming that this was a "disputed area" which was on their side of the McMahon line, they have, however, suggested that the matter could be discussed "intensively" at the seventh round of official-level talks in Beijing next week. It was in this context that Mr. Shiv

Shankar maintained that the Foreign Secretary would be taking up this issue directly with the acting Chinese Premier and the Foreign Minister, besides discussing it with the Chinese delegation.

The statement was carefully worded to avoid the impression that India was rattled by this latest Chinese provocation and also refrain from saying anything harsh that might strain the atmosphere for the impending talks on this development. The Minister merely recalled that about 40 Chinese, some in uniform, had intruded two or three kilometres deep into the Sumdorong valley in mid-June, without mentioning that they had in fact encroached seven or eight kilometres into Indian territory and set up a camp by pitching tents there.

After verifying this intrusion, the Government of India protested strongly to China on July 6, stressing that this area was well within Indian territory south of the McMahon line. The Chinese Government rejected the Indian protest on July 8 maintaining that this was a disputed area which was on their side of the McMahon line.

Indian graziers have been going to the Sumdorong Chu valley during the summer months almost every year even after the border conflict and have not been challenged at any time by the Chinese forces there. Indian army patrols also have been visiting the area occasionally since this valley was clearly south of the McMahon line.

It is the timing of the latest Chinese claim to this area that has come as a big surprise to the policy-makers in Delhi, since they have been proceeding on the facile assumption that the McMahon line which more or less coincides with the present Chinese line of actual control

in the eastern sector is as good as settled and that the border dispute really relates to the areas under Chinese occupation in the western sector which extend considerably to the Indian side of the watershed along the Karakoram Range.

Claim to 90,000 sq.km.

The leader of the Chinese delegation, Mr. Liu Shuqing, made it quite clear at the last round of talks in Delhi, when the two sides started a sector by sector study of each other's positions, that the Chinese continued to claim 90,000 square kilometres of territory south of the McMahon line. He reiterated this claim to reinforce the Chinese contention that any concessions that Beijing might make in the western sector must be balanced by matching territorial adjustments in the eastern sector along the McMahon line.

The Chinese have evidently indulged in the latest intrusion to drive home the point that what they mean by a comprehensive settlement based on Mr. Deng Xiaoping's package offer is an agreement based on a *de jure* acceptance of the present *de facto* position all along the border or a negotiated settlement through a balance of concessions in all the three sectors, implying that India must yield territory across the McMahon line in the east if it wants China to give up some of the occupied areas in Ladakh in the west.

Enough freedom

The brief for the Indian delegation has been prepared in full appreciation of all these complexities, but the leader of the delegation, Mr. Venkateswaran, has been given enough free-

dom to exercise his discretion in deciding how best India should proceed with these discussions in the light of the latest Chinese moves to complicate the negotiations.

It remains to be seen whether the Chinese incursion is only a tactical move intended to be no more than a token assertion of its notional claim to vast areas in the eastern sector as a bargaining point, or whether it represents a marked hardening of the Chinese attitude in the belief that they can extract better concessions by exerting politico-military pressure.



Assurance from Zhao

Madras THE HINDU in English 25 Jul 86 p 1

[Article by G.K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, July 24.

The Chinese Prime Minister, Mr. Zhao Ziang, who has been on a visit to several countries in Europe, has sought to assure India through some friendly governments even after the recent border intrusion that China was keen on a comprehensive settlement of the border problem.

The present state of Sino-Indian relationship is one of the subjects he has been referring to in the course of his talks on the current international situation in Greece, Romania, Yugoslavia, Turkey and Spain.

The State visit of the Yugoslav Prime Minister, Mr. Branko Mikulic, who arrives in Delhi on Monday will give Mr. Rajiv Gandhi an opportunity to get an idea among other things of the current Chinese thinking on many issues including the border problem.

An interesting feature of the observations made by Mr. Zhao Ziang in these capitals in the course of the last two weeks and by the Chinese Communist Party chief, Mr. Hu

Yaobang, in London, Bonn, Paris and Rome last month is that China does not see any basic change in Soviet attitudes since Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev came to power other than some flexibility in their presentation. Though the Sino-Soviet dialogue will go on, it appears Beijing does not expect any significant breakthrough in the foreseeable future.

In the Sino-Indian context, the Chinese leadership continues to view with some misgivings the close relationship between Delhi and Moscow as an impediment, if not a barrier, to better understanding with Beijing that could pave the way for a border settlement through a balance of concessions by both sides.

The Indian position has been restated by the Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister on different occasions to make it abundantly clear to China that there can be no lasting improvement in Sino-Indian relations until the border problem has been settled to India's satisfaction and that it cannot agree to any package

deal that leaves China in possession of all the territory acquired through clandestine occupation or military action.

The Government of India has had only some sketchy messages from the Indian delegation indicating no change at all in the Chinese stand, either on the question of the recent intrusion into the Sumdorong Chu valley or on the substantive aspects of the border dispute, at the latest round of official level talks in Beijing which remain deadlocked over the very concept of what could be deemed to be a comprehensive settlement. It is only after the return of the Foreign Secretary, Mr. A. P. Venkateswaran, on Monday that the Government will get a fuller account of these discussions.

A statement is expected to be made in Parliament next week, before the Prime Minister leaves for London on August 3, and many members continue to press for a debate on the implications of the recent Chinese intrusion.

UNI reports:

In the Rajya Sabha the Chairman, M. R. Venkataraman, said now that the Indian team had concluded its talks in Beijing, he would consider allowing a discussion or asking the government to make a *suo motu* statement on the Sino-Indian talks in the House.

Helipad in Arunachal

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 29 Jul 86 p 1

[Text]

ITANAGAR, July 28 (UNI).

CHINESE intruders recently constructed a helipad in the Sumdorong Chu valley area of Tawang district in Arunachal Pradesh to consolidate their position in the Indian valley.

The chief minister, Mr. Gegong Apang, told newsmen here last night that the intruders, numbering about 150, had set up camps in the valley and were trying to infiltrate into the villages.

Mr. Apang, who returned from Delhi yesterday, said he had apprised the Prime Minister of the Chinese intrusion and submitted a detailed report on the latest situation.

Copies of the report were also submitted to the defence and external affairs ministries for necessary action, he said.

Mr. Apang said the tribal people of the Sumdorong and Thundorong areas were traditionally living in the upper reaches and had been using the valley for grazing their yaks.

GRAZING LAND

"If the tribals do not get back their grazing land immediately," he said, "they will starve since they earned their livelihood only from the milk of yaks."

The chief minister hoped that the Centre would realise the gravity of the situation and do the needful soon. "We should not lose an inch of our territory," he said.

Referring to recent insurgent activities in Tirap district of the Union territory, Mr. Apang said the international border between Burma should be sealed at least temporarily to control the situation.

He also favoured joint combing by the Indian and Burmese army to flush out the insurgents from the area.

Meanwhile, Mr. T. Lendup, who retired as deputy commissioner of Tawang district recently, would be reappointed, the chief minister said. At present, the posts of deputy commissioner in Tawang and west Kameng districts are lying vacant.

Mr. Apang said Mr. Rajiv Gandhi had agreed in principle to grant statehood to Arunachal Pradesh along with Mizoram.

He said the Prime Minister had asked him to work out, in details, the mobilisation of internal resources by the Union territory.

Mr. Gandhi would like to discuss the matter again with Mr. Apang and his colleagues within a week, he said.

Madras THE HINDU in English 31 Jul 86 p 9

[Article by G.K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, July 30.

The Government of India has to take a policy decision in the next few months whether any useful purpose would be served by continuing the current series of official-level talks on the border dispute, after the latest Chinese refusal to withdraw from the Sumdorong Chu Valley which has been occupied to remind India in no uncertain terms that Beijing has not given up the claims to vast areas south of the McMahon line.

But for the time being India is keeping the options open to determine its next step after awaiting the next Chinese moves in the Eastern Sector, whether the intruding troops now camping in the Sumdorong Chu Valley would be pulled out before the advent of winter, or the Chinese would attempt to occupy some other strategic salients in the Eastern Sector as a logical follow-up of their attempts to exert pressure on India to agree to the principle of a package settlement based on mutual concessions.

The External Affairs Minister, Mr. P. Shiv Shankar, is expected to make his promised statement in Parliament this week on the outcome of the latest round of talks in Beijing, when he would have to disclose that China was

refusing to withdraw from Sumdorong Chu Valley, maintaining that it was on the northern side of the Line of Actual Control in this region. He would be obliged to take Parliament into confidence about the implications of this Chinese refusal and its possible repercussions on the fate of the on-going Sino-Indian exchanges on the border problem.

Though a *suo motu* statement made by a Minister even on a matter of great importance does not entitle the members of Lok Sabha to seek clarifications, the rules of procedure in Rajya Sabha confer this privilege on its members who never forego an opportunity to exercise this right. So the External Affairs Minister will have

to be prepared to indicate how the Government views this development, whether it considers the Chinese action a setback to the efforts India has been making to find a fair and equitable settlement.

Briefing: The Foreign Secretary, Mr. A. P. Venkateswaran, who led the Indian delegation to the latest round of talks in Beijing, returned to Delhi last night. He will be reporting to the Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister about the stand taken by the Chinese side at these talks on the Sumdorong Chu issue, also what the acting Chinese Premier, Mr. Wan Li, and the Foreign Minister, Mr. Wu Xueqian, told him when he called on them.

The External Affairs Minister will be meeting his Chinese counterpart in the normal course during the U.N. General Assembly session in New York at the end of September or in early October, when the near deadlock that has arisen in these border talks is bound to come up for discussion. But the Government of India does not expect the Chinese to soften their attitude without some matching gestures from the Indian side, which means a readiness to agree to territorial concessions in the Eastern Sector for the return of even a part of the occupied territory in the Ladakh region.

Change in stance: The marked hardening of the Chinese attitude since last November when they renewed their territorial claims across the McMahon line represents an unmistakable change in their political stance, presumably based on the assumption that it would be possible to exert pressure on India to accept the principle for a package settlement based on the existing realities of the situation. The Chinese are apparently making the big mistake of imagining that India would be more amenable now to the concept of such a settlement, faced as it is with serious internal problems, little realising that such crude pressure would have exactly the opposite impact on Indian public opinion.

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA (SUPPLEMENT) in English 27 Jul 86 p 1

[Article by Nikhil Chakravartty]

[Text]

If India uses force to dislodge China, this will be used to show up India as an unfriendly power, unreliable where its smaller neighbours are concerned. If India does not go in for such a move, this restraint will be misread as proof of being supine in her dealings with China.

DEVELOPMENTS in foreign affairs tend to catch the limelight in isolation, as if each such event can be studied and assessed exclusively and not as part of an on-going process.

To focus attention on specific episodes without making any endeavour to look at the totality of development becomes misleading and betrays a tendency to react on the spur of the moment rather than to work out a stand on the strength of mature considerations.

Impulse can be a deceptive guide in handling a foreign policy issue when it is not fortified by serious assessment of a whole range of happenings preceding or accompanying it.

All this may sound like prattling platitudes. But a gentle warning on this score is worth repeating even as one views very recent developments in our neighbourhood. The latest Chinese intrusion into Arunachal Pradesh has attracted a lot of attention, particularly when the Chinese have come out with a provocative rejoinder to India's protest. The explanation for this Chinese action has so far been rather simplistic. It is said that the Chinese were trying to queer the pitch for the seventh round of official-level talks on the Sino-Indian border dispute, which have just taken place in Beijing. Obviously.

But the question to be answered is: Why has China suddenly taken this stand? Even the most Sinophile among our pundits can hardly dismiss this Chinese intrusion as just a case of mountaineers unwittingly straying south of the McMahon Line. Had this

been so, they need not have chosen to camp for weeks in that inhospitable terrain on the high Himalayas. The more serious among our China experts would say that they noticed a certain shift in the Chinese position during the last round of official-level border talks that took place in New Delhi last November, a change which could not be concealed.

In fact, the Chinese side pointedly raised their claims on the eastern sector of the Indo-China border, claims which had hardly been heard for more than 20 years, that is since the bitter tensions of 1962. Purely from the point of view of the border talks, the Chinese by the latest intrusion, have brought the focus back to the eastern sector. This rudely belies the rather superficial Indian calculation that the bone of contention would be the western sector — the Karakoram region — where the Chinese have still been holding onto their claim-line of 1960. It was then that the dispute was discussed in detail by officials of both countries, producing a voluminous report. They still lay claim to the extra 5,000 sq. kms. they had occupied by their armed aggression in 1962.

In other words, the Chinese game seems to be to divert attention from their occupation in the western sector to what India had naively regarded as the less disputed eastern sector.

But the Chinese intrusion has another dimension which needs to be emphasized. India's relations with her smaller neighbours provide a happy hunting ground for powers interested in harassing this country which they otherwise find difficult to bring under their direct overlordship. The geographical reality of a big country surrounded by a cluster of smaller countries has its own inherent problems — ranging from the economic to the psychological. Such problems could be easily accentuated by any outside power with some clout among our small neighbours.

By this yardstick, one has to assess China's extraordinary interest in India's neighbours where it has access. It is an open secret that Nepal's relations with India are often made intractable by the moves that Beijing takes — not always covertly — to whip up anti-India feelings in Nepal. A Chinese presence in Nepal is not always an exercise in Panch-sheel co-existence; it is sometimes to undermine the traditional Indo-Nepal amity. Otherwise so far there has been no tenable explanation as to why Nepal has to import Chinese engineers and post them in the Terai in the east-west highway project in which India has never begrudged help and co-operation.

In neighbouring Bhutan, Beijing's moves are patently aimed at undermining the strong bonds that bind it to India. India is responsible for Bhutan's defence, and yet China has insisted on border negotiations with Bhutan on a bilateral basis. Which means India will have no say in the demarcation of a border which it is its treaty obligation to defend. To gain a firmer foothold, Beijing is now trying hard to get Bhutan to agree to the opening of a Chinese embassy in that mountain kingdom.

In this scenario, would it be so difficult to deduce that China's

motivation could be to intrude into Indian territory and stay put there? If India uses force to dislodge the intruding party, it would be used to show up India as an unfriendly power, and therefore unreliable for its smaller neighbours. And if India does not go in for such a move, it could be misread as proof of her being supine in her dealings with China: In other words, a devaluing of India's position in the eyes of her smaller neighbour, from the low-cost adventurism.

China's moves alone do not complete the picture of what's happening on India's borders. At the other end of the country, many developments have taken place lately and these have hardly been analysed and assessed in our country, at least not to the knowledge of the public. Developments in Pakistan are very much a subject of constant interest in this country, but there is often a tendency not to go deep into them.

It is widely noticed in New Delhi that Pakistan's new Prime Minister, Junejo — elected no doubt but in an ersatz poll — has received an extra-warm welcome in Washington from all the bigwigs from President Reagan downward. What our media and our politicians have missed is the implication of President Reagan's "hands off" warning to Moscow for its strong warning to Pakistan against the danger that its nuclear weapons programme might invite upon itself.

The point to note is that the very nature of Washington's warning to the Soviet Union provides the clue to the critical stage which Pakistan's nuclear weapons programme has reached. Otherwise, one can hardly explain not only the seriousness of Moscow's warning to Pakistan but also the seriousness of Washington's warning to Moscow. Had the Pak nuclear bomb programme been still at the rudimentary

stage, there would have been no need for Moscow to deliver a strong warning nor, more important, for Washington to come

out with a warning extending a Monroe Doctrine style jurisdiction over Pakistan.

President Reagan's advice to Junejo against going in for the nuclear bomb was meant as a sop to the US congress so that the White House could exercise its waiver of the Symington Amendment to enable Pakistan to get more and more sophisticated weapons.

Add to all this the reported project for the manufacture in Pakistan of a fighter plane for which China is to provide the frame and the US the engine. Rather a neat division of labour which makes a mockery of our defence scientific adviser Aruna-chalam's heroic efforts to get an American engine for our light combat aircraft (LCA). If ever our LCA takes off the ground, it will be less swadeshi than the Maruti.

The link between the Chinese intrusion into the eastern sector of the Himalayan frontier and the US umbrella for Pakistan with its nuclear near-preparedness has to be noted if one has to understand in all seriousness the dimensions of India's problems with her neighbours.

There can hardly be a bilateral assessment of India's relations with each of her neighbours in isolation from the rest of the developments in the region. It is only an endeavour at grasping the totality of what's happening in our proximity that can help our foreign policy makers to work out an effective strategy for our neighbourhood.

Neither the profusion of protocol niceties at the summit level — SAARC or bilateral — nor a sudden impulse for instant friendship or instant animosity can replace solid hard work and thinking in foreign affairs.

/9317

CSO: 4600/1007

OUTCOME OF PRESIDENT'S NEPAL VISIT TOLD

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 25 Jul 86 p 1

[Text]

KATHIMANDU, July 24.—India and Nepal have decided to set up a joint commission at the ministerial level to review existing cooperation, ways to diversify it and build it according to the plans and priorities of the Nepalese Government, reports PTI.

An official spokesman of the Indian Government told reporters here that in principle, the two sides, during the officials talks, had, agreed to set up the commission.

The decision to set up the joint commission was taken at a meeting between the Industries Minister, Mr N. D. Tiwari, and the Nepalese Premier, Mr Manich Man Shingh Shrestha.

The Nepalese Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, Mr Mohan Man Sainju, will soon visit India to discuss Nepalese requirements with his Indian counterpart.

India has also agreed to set up an industrial estate at Rajbiraj, in southern Nepal, to help the indus-

trialization of the kingdom. The National Small Industries Corporation will build the estate, expected to cost Rs 1.3 crores.

The spokesman said utilization of water resources had also figured prominently during the discussions. The two sides had agreed that Nepal's "white gold" or hydro-electric potential could be used for mutual benefit.

The exploitation of Nepal's water resources would also provide for a long-term perspective of cooperation which could be of immense use to both the industrialization and the growth of agriculture in the two countries.

The proposed joint commission would be set up soon, the spokesman added. The modalities would be expeditiously finalized, the two sides agreed.

The Nepalese Minister of State for Finance, Mr Bharat Bahadur Pradhan, will soon visit India to

discuss ways of reducing the Kingdom's balance of trade deficit with India.

King Birendra accompanied by Queen Aishwarya, drove this evening to the Indian Embassy to attend a reception, hosted in their honour by President Zail Singh.

The Nepalese Royal couple, who spent about an hour at the reception held on the lawns of the Indian Ambassador's residence, also devoted some time with guests who included the Nepalese Premier, his Cabinet members, politicians, heads of diplomatic missions and other distinguished persons.

Asked if he was satisfied with Mr Zail Singh's visit, King Birendra said, "We were very happy to have him here".

King Birendra, in the banquet speech, voiced concern over the growing adverse trade deficit and called for concrete steps to remove it.

/13046

CSO: 4600/1015

DELHI REVIEWS POLICY WITH NEIGHBOR COUNTRIES

Madras THE HINDU in English 21 Jul 86 p 1

[Text]

NEW DELHI, July 20.

The Government of India is currently engaged in a detailed review of its neighbourhood diplomacy to assess whether the present policy of bending backwards to placate intransigent neighbours is yielding the desired results.

A comprehensive paper on the subject has been prepared by the Ministry of External Affairs for consideration at the highest level, to determine whether this policy needs to be revised in any respect to make it more effective both in its articulation and implementation.

Objective unchanged: The basic objective remains unchanged, to the extent that India will continue to strive for better and mutually beneficial relations with all its neighbours consistent with the country's national interests. The review under way relates primarily to the procedures to be followed for exercising the options open to India more effectively.

The dialogue with China, for example, is running into difficulties for reasons that are not directly connected in any way with developments in and around the subcontinent. A clearer picture of the new Chinese tactics and their motivations in adopting tougher postures will emerge only after the latest official level talks in Beijing.

Emboldened to press claims: But the fact that China has chosen, for whatever reason, to reassert stridently its territorial claims across the McMahon line with a token incursion in a strategically vital segment of the Tawang region cannot be viewed in isolation. The continued internal turmoils in India have emboldened some neighbouring countries to take liberties and attempt to step up pressures to extract concessions.

The uneasy relationship with Pakistan has been strained further, not only by its persistent support to the extremists in Punjab but also by Islamabad's increasing assistance to Sri Lanka in its campaign against Tamil sub-nationalism. The talk of a friendship treaty or no-war pact has turned out to be a non-starter despite all

the rhetoric of a shared desire for normalisation.

If the Punjab crisis has given Pakistan a chance to meddle in India's internal affairs, the incipient agitation for a Gorkhaland in the Sikkim-Darjeeling area is enabling the hardliners in Nepal to give an anti-Indian slant to it. This is leading in turn to an extension of Chinese influence in the mountain kingdom, while Bhutan is engaged in complex negotiations with Beijing for settling its border problem.

Deep-rooted animosities: The recent visit of Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad has, no doubt, helped to create an atmosphere of improving relations with Bangladesh. But beneath the surface there are deep-rooted animosities giving an unfortunate twist to the prevailing discords over issues like the Ganga waters and maritime boundary demarcation.

The Tamil problem has soured India's relationship with Sri Lanka to such an extent that this highly strategic island is becoming increasingly vulnerable to all kinds of foreign influences. Though the two superpowers have so far kept out, the lesser ones are getting more and more involved, either as arms suppliers or supporters of Sinhala chauvinism.

All these disturbing developments in India's neighbourhood are being studied carefully for formulating the policy options open to the Government. The intention is not to adopt stronger attitudes, but project Indian policies in such a manner that the country's well-meaning gestures for better relations are not mistaken for appeasement.

The next few months are going to provide many challenges in the conduct of India's neighbourhood diplomacy, confronting the country once again with the exasperating dilemma whether a recalcitrant neighbour can be won over from a position of strength with some meaningful concessions, or a display of excessive solicitude for its susceptibilities that are quite different from legitimate grievances.

INTERNAL SECURITY MINISTER DISCUSSES COMMUNAL PROBLEMS

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Jul 86 p 1

[Text]

NEW DELHI, July 23
(UNI)

DISTRICT collectors and superintendents of police will in future be held "directly and principally" responsible for any communal violence, the minister of state for internal security, Mr. P. Chidambaram, told the Lok Sabha today.

"I want to make this clear as the cadre-controlling authority for the IAS in the department of personnel and for the IPS in the home ministry," Mr. Chidambaram said.

The minister was intervening in the three-day special discussion on the communal situation in various parts of the country, initiated by the Janata leader, Mr. Madhu Dandavate.

Mr. Chidambaram assured the house amid cheers that the government "has the political will" and would summon that will in dealing firmly with the communal situation.

He asked the members to judge the government by the results in the next few months.

He said the government was considering giving greater representation to the minorities in the police force. The present situation, he agreed, was not a happy one. He urged the leaders of the minorities to encourage their men to join the police force in greater numbers.

Stating that lack of training was one of the weaknesses of the state armed constabularies, Mr. Chidambaram said government was drawing up a programme for proper training of these

forces in batches. The training must be to inculcate in them the right approach. Referring to the special courts to deal with cases relating to communal riots, Mr. Chidambaram said the experience so far was not a happy one. Only five states and two Union territories had appointed special courts. In other states, regular courts were being asked to deal with such cases on a priority basis.

"We have to make a beginning and we will make a beginning at Ahmedabad," the minister said, adding that those responsible for the disturbances at Ahmedabad would be punished severely through speedy trials.

Mr. Chidambaram pointed out that the Central government had issued revised guidelines to the states in July last year for dealing effectively with communal trouble. If those guidelines were implemented properly, much of the violence could be avoided.

The guidelines clearly put a curb on the use of loudspeakers in religious processions. The indiscriminate use of loudspeakers and music often led to trouble. It was equally necessary to review the routes of processions. Processions must be symbolic and short and must avoid sensitive spots.

The minister described 1985 and 1986 as "quite bad years" judging from the number of communal disturbances. In all, 84 districts had been identified as "hyper-sensitive" to communal violence and 98 districts as "sensitive".

Describing the call for "breadh" given at Ahmedabad as "intemperate" and "unwise", Mr. Chidambaram said, "We have paid a heavy price because of the call."

Replying to a question, Mr. Chidambaram said the Gujarat chief minister

had said that a high court judge would conduct the inquiry into the Ahmedabad disturbances. The terms of reference of the inquiry commission were being drawn up.

The minister also referred to the role of the press and said sometimes certain newspapers published reports which were unbalanced and provocative. He appealed to the newspapers to observe restraint and co-operate with the government in its efforts to maintain peace.

He also appealed to all political parties and their leaders to organise more peace marches and peace rallies so that secular forces could assert themselves.

In any communal disturbance, it was the poor man—whatever be his religion—who suffered most. Anti-social elements took advantage of the situation and spread the holocaust.

In the resumed debate, Mr. Dinesh Goswami (AGP) underlined the need for providing a new orientation to the police force in handling communal disturbances. Any person found to have aided or abetted communal trouble should not be allowed to hold public office. A national political consensus must be evolved to tackle the problem effectively, he said.

Mr. Bal Ram Singh Yadav (Cong) said all political parties, social organisations and religious groups should unite to find a permanent solution.

PJI adds: The home minister, Mr. Bata Singh, will reply to the discussion on the communal situation in the Lok Sabha tomorrow.

The speaker, Mr. Balram Jajhar, said he was allowing the maximum number of members to speak on the subject so that the house could evolve some concrete suggestions.

PRESS REPORTS ACTIVITIES OF GORKHA SEPARATISTS

Geishing 20 Jul Speech

Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 21 Jul 86 p 4

[Article by Prashun Bhaumik]

[Text]

Lebong (Darjeeling), July 20: "Gorkhaland will be achieved by 1987-end at all costs," Mr Subhas Geishing, president of the Gorkha National Liberation Front, said at the Lebong public ground here this evening.

"We will lay down our lives but not give up our demands for a separate land and identity," he told the 10,000-strong gathering at the end of his 10-day series of meetings held all over the district to mobilise support for the July 27 burning of Article 7 of the Indo-Nepalese Treaty.

The rally which was scheduled to be held at the Chowk Bazar was shifted to Lebong after the administration enforced Section 144 CrPC at Chowk Bazar. According to informed sources permission to hold the meet at the bazar may have been withheld as it is a congested area and unsuitable for a public rally.

Elaborate security arrangements were made in and around Darjeeling and Lebong. Large numbers of district, state and paramilitary forces were deployed all along the route to the meeting. Vehicles were stopped at several points and allowed to move only one at a time. The GNLF claimed that the district administration had imposed unfair restrictions on them by re-

fusing them permission to fly party flags on their vehicles.

However, most of the cars, trucks and buses had flags flying on them. The town seemed deserted as hundreds of people made their way to the rally ground which is seven km away. Local commuters were greatly inconvenienced as there were no taxis or buses available.

District authorities said 6,000 people attended the meeting which was peaceful. No untoward incident was reported in the area today. People came from far-flung parts of the district and there were long lines of vehicles on the way to the Lebong ground. Welcome arches were constructed all along the road from Takdah, where Mr Geishing held a meeting early this morning. He was cheered by crowds, mostly tea estate workers, as he drove along the route.

Mr Geishing arrived at the Lebong rally ground at about 4.30 pm and was swamped and garlanded by his supporters. Women supporters of the GNLF gave him a traditional welcome. In his speech Mr Geishing said the GNLF would be compelled to take over the administration of the district if their demands were not met before the completion of their 11-point action plan.

The GNLF leader warned that they would force the district magistrate and all other state government officials to leave or set up four districts with separate district magistrates in the present Darjeeling district. He said the GNLF had successfully carried out its two earlier programmes.

Mr Geishing was rather subdued today and his speech was not as inflammatory as in the past. In Kalimpong yesterday he had called upon each Gorkha to arm himself with a khukri and remain alert against any attack by the state government. "We will kill before we die and not commit suicide," he had declared amid applause.

The GNLF leader today said the Gorkhaland government would set up a commission to probe the deaths of all those *bir putras* who had died for their motherland. "We will not shed tears for them for they have died for a noble cause," he said. He also announced that the family of the dead would be paid life-long pension and other facilities by the Gorkhaland government.

Reaction From Center

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 25 Jul 86 pp 1, 9

[Text] New Delhi, July 24.--The Centre will not have any direct dealing with the advocates of a Gorkha homeland movement, Mr Buta Singh, Union Home Minister, said in the Rajya Sabha today. "We will not do anything without the State Government", he added. The Prime Minister then intervened briefly to add that it would depend upon the cooperation of the State Government.

When members referred to newspaper reports which indicated that there was a move for direct dealing between the Centre and the leaders of the Gorkhaland movement, Mr Buta Singh advised them "not to read too much in the newspapers".

Answering a question by Mr Sukomal Sen (CPI-M), Mr Buta Singh said that in response to a request from the West Bengal Government, the Centre had provided eight companies of paramilitary forces to deal with the agitation by the Gorkha National Liberation Front.

The Government was aware, he said, that leaders of the front were trying to coerce ex-servicemen and seeking to influence the Gorkhas currently serving in the Indian Army. It was also aware that the front had addressed memoranda to international organizations and foreign Governments.

"Any movement which believes in bringing about political and constitutional change through violence is against the law of the country", Mr Buta Singh said and added: "We are in touch with the State Governments, and keeping an eye on all organizations. We won't spare anyone".

To this, Mr Rajiv Gandhi added: "And not transgress on the law and order responsibility of the State Governments when doing so".

Mr Dipen Ghosh of the CPI(M) wanted the Prime Minister to make a statement on the matter. The Chairman, Mr R. Venkataraman, said that the request had been noted.

Our Special Representative in Calcutta adds: The situation in the hill areas of Darjeeling is "very explosive". The GNLF movement has spread to remote corners of the district and if it slips into the hands of the youth there is every likelihood of a Punjab-like situation emerging in the district, with terrorists controlling the area.

This is the opinion gathered by Mr Ramarkrishna Saraogi, former Minister in the Siddhartha Ray Ministry, during his recent week-long visit to Darjeeling. He said in Calcutta on Thursday that the hills people had genuine grievances which called for an immediate solution. In course of his talks with the GNLF leader, Mr Subash Ghisingh, Mr Saraogi had made it clear to him that there could not be a "second partition of Bengal" and, therefore, the GNLF should give up its demand for a separate State. If Mr Ghisingh was agreeable to this suggestion, Mr Saraogi would take the initiative of bringing the parties concerned together for talks.

Mr Saraogi said Mr Ghisingh had declined to drop the movement for a separate State as the GNLF leader felt that Mr Saraogi's proposal could have been considered "a few months ago". It was too late now as the movement had percolated to the grassroot level. He said, "The West Bengal Government has all along exploited us and paid no heed to our sentiments". Mr Ghisingh had complained to Mr Saraogi that the State Government had failed in the matter of development work, proper maintenance of Darjeeling town, provision for adequate higher education for the Nepalese-speaking people, revival of the sick tea gardens, afforestation and employment for the local people.

Comparing Darjeeling with Sikkim, Mr Ghisingh told Mr Saraogi that the latter with a population of 300,000 had 32 MLAs in the State Assembly, whereas Darjeeling with a population of 700,000 had only three MLAs in the West Bengal Assembly. In spite of the fact that the hills people of Darjeeling were poorer than their counterparts in Sikkim, they did not get food at subsidized rates, a benefit the people of Sikkim enjoyed.

Mr Ghisingh was critical of Clause 7 of the India-Nepal Treaty of 1950 as it gave the impression that "we are subjects of Nepal". He pointed out that after the transfer of Darjeeling hills by the then Sikkim Government to the East India Company in 1835, "we became citizens of this country".

Welcoming the State CPI(M)'s decision to send a team of party leaders, including Mr Saroj Mukherjee, to Darjeeling to assess the situation arising out of the GNLF movement, Mr Saraogi said that had such attempts been made earlier the situation would not have deteriorated to such an extent. He felt the State Government had failed to "appreciate the sentiments and aspirations" of the hills people which had resulted in the "unfortunate demand for Gorkhaland". If the demand for a separate State materialized at all, the responsibility would squarely lie on the State Government, he added.

Mr Saraogi claimed he had gone to Darjeeling on his own and not at the behest of Mr Siddhartha Sankar Ray. He denied that Mr Ray had any connection with "his humble effort to defuse the explosive situation in Darjeeling". His subsequent visit to Delhi was "purely personal". He had conveyed his views on the GNLF movement to Mr Nirmal Bose, West Bengal Industry Minister, both of whom happened to be on the same flight from Bagdogra to Calcutta on July 18.

/13046

CSO: 4600/1015

BJP NOTES IMPROVEMENT IN PUNJAB SITUATION

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 21 Jul 86 p 9

[Text]

GWALIOR, July 20.—The BJP, despite noting some improvement in the law and order situation in Punjab since the deployment of the CRP and the BSF, felt that the atmosphere in the border State was still grave with the secessionist threat continuing to challenge the unity and integrity of India.

A resolution adopted by the BJP national executive here, before its three-day session ended this afternoon, demanded that the Government refer all the territorial disputes to a single commission.

Meeting correspondents later, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, leader of the BJP group of 11 members in Parliament, said that the terms of the Desai Commission could be amended if a new commission were not to be appointed. But he favoured a "package deal" on the questions of territory. He claimed that the Punjab Chief Minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, and his Finance Minister, Mr Balwant Singh, were "agreeable to such a package". He said that this was what they had told him when he talked to them.

Mr Vajpayee insisted that territorial transfers should be simultaneous. He added: "The dates of transfer and the commissions' verdicts had become a joke. The completion of the Sutlej-Yamuna Link Canal was due on August 15 this year. Since it is no longer possible, the Centre should take it over and complete it on a war footing".

Mr Vajpayee said that his party had definite information that Mr Arjun Singh had had secret talks with the terrorists when he was the Governor of Punjab and the Government was even now maintaining secret contacts with the extremists. "Yet the Prime Minister says one thing one day and quite another, another day".

"We also condemn the activities of the dissident Akalis. They are being used by the terrorists".

Asked what would his party do if the Government reached an accord with the extremists like the one on Mizoram, Mr Vajpayee replied: "What can we do? We will adopt another strong resolution".

He said that his party would like all the Chief Ministers to stop the Sikhs from leaving their States.

While reiterating its demand for deployment of troops in the border districts of Punjab to curb terrorism, the BJP announced its plans to organize a "One Country, One People" week all over India from August 9.

Mr Vajpayee criticized the Government for its failure to take precautionary measures to ensure communal harmony in different parts of the country. In his opinion, factionalism in the Congress (I) was to be blamed. There was a new effort to bring down the Chief Minister of Gujarat by creating disturbances just as Mr. Madhavsinh Solanki had been ousted earlier.

He also alleged that "money had changed hands in Bihar and Rajasthan during the Rajya Sabha elections".

Mr Vajpayee demanded that Article 370 of the Constitution be deleted. Now is the time. The Governor has full powers to do it. The Kashmir legislature is under suspension. Even Parliament cannot discuss the budget of Kashmir.

"We are often asked why did we not delete Article 370 when the Janata Party was in power. The truth is that there was no unanimity within the party on this question. If we had remained in office long enough, perhaps we would have persuaded others in the Janata Party to agree with us", he said.

In a resolution, the party expressed concern about the "massive infiltration of Pakistan-trained terrorists into Poonch, Rajouri and Kapurwa". There was also a network of guerrilla training schools in the sensitive parts of the valley.

CONGRESS-J REPORTEDLY SPLITS INTO TWO FACTIONS

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 21 Jul 86 p 9

[Text]

NEW DELHI, July 20.—The Congress (J), founded by Jagjivan Ram, was split into two factions today, one led by Mrs Indrani Devi, widow of the late leader, and the other led by Mr H. S. Bhalla, with each side claiming it was the "real" Indian National Congress (J), reports PTI.

The split occurred at a Congress (J) working committee meeting at Jagjivan Ram's residence under the chairmanship of Mr Ganpat Bhagat, a former party M.P.

The working committee meeting was attended by about 12 of the 22 members and 15 State unit presidents, vice-presidents and general secretaries from eight States who had been invited to attend the meeting, Mr Triveni Sahal, secretary to Jagjivan Ram, said.

Soon after the meeting, the group led by Mr Mazhar Hussain, who had supported Mr Bhalla, called a Press conference at Western Court, a guest house for M.P.s.

Mr Hussain told reporters that Mr Bhalla would continue as the

acting president till the All India Congress Committee (J) meeting was held. He however, could not say when the AICC (J) session would take place.

A little later, the second group, in a Press Note, said the working committee had unanimously elected Mrs Indrani Devi as the president in place of Jagjivan Ram.

There were also conflicting claims about the number of persons from the national executive who were present during the working committee meeting.

The Press Note said Mrs Indrani Devi had nominated Mr Tayyab Hussain, MLA (Haryana) and Mr Satyadeo Tripathi, former U.P. Minister, as general secretaries.

Supporters of Ms Kirti, grand daughter of Jagjivan Ram, who shouted slogans outside both the venues alleged that most of the Congress (J) members had been "purchased" by the Congress (I).

A posse of policemen was posted outside Jagjivan Ram's residence and Ms Kirti and her supporters were not allowed inside.

/13046

CSO: 4600/1012

JAGJIVAN RAM'S WIDOW TO LEAD CONGRESS-J

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 23 Jul 86 p 9

[Text]

NEW DELHI, July 22.—Mrs Indrani Jagjivan Ram 74, today spoke at a Press conference at her house to announce that her husband's party men had asked her to lead the party now that he was no more. She had accepted their suggestion.

In a feeble voice, she said that she had appointed two new general secretaries and a working president. She walked from her house to the party office near the gate and stayed there for a few minutes.

After Mrs Jagjivan Ram had left, one of the general secretaries, Mr Satya Dev Tripathi, said that correspondents had seen for themselves that she was well and reports that she is unconscious are incorrect. She could not stay longer because in front of her was a portrait of Jagjivan Ram and she was "overcome with emotion".

He added in reply to questions that the party had not yet considered whether it should merge into the Congress(I). It was too early to consider the question.

Three out of the five Congress (J) MLAs from U.P. were present at the Press conference. The sup-

port of one more MLA was claimed, besides two MLAs from Haryana.

In a written statement, Mrs Jagjivan Ram said that she "is working as the party president and looking after all the party affairs". She appointed Mr Ganpat Bhagat, former M.P. from Maharashtra, the working president of the party.

Mr Tripathi said that they were in full control of the party office and records and five of the six State units in U.P., Haryana, Punjab, Bihar, Maharashtra. Besides, the Delhi and Chandigarh units were with them but the Tamil Nadu unit was not.

He added: "Some disgruntled elements, including three non-functioning former general secretaries, including Mr Mazhar Hussain and Mr H. S. Bhalla, are not with us."

In a letter to the Election Commission Mrs Jagjivan Ram said that the "symbol of our party, already reserved, and other rights" should be "observed as before" in view of her election as president of the Congress(J). "A few persons of the party have walked out of the party", she added. They had "no locus standi".

/13046

CSO: 4600/1990

CPI-M EXPELS FOUR DISSIDENTS IN WEST BENGAL

Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 23 Jul 86 p 4

[Text]

Calcutta, July 22: The state CPI(M) has started expelling dissident members who had either opposed official party candidates or had refused to campaign in the last municipal elections. The state secretariat recently expelled four party members for "anti-party activities and links with the enemy camp."

The expelled members—Mr Rashamoy Mondal, Mr Ashok Palit, Mr Radheshyam Sikdar and Mr Arun Datta—belong to Habra in North 24-Parganas. Following the state secretariat's communique, a high-level meeting was held at the CPI(M) state headquarters yesterday to discuss dissident activities, which have assumed alarming proportions in North 24-Parganas.

The meeting was attended by a number of North 24-Parganas district leaders, including the district secretary, Mr Niren Ghosh, a former state secretariat member, Mr Gopal Bose, who has a large following in North 24-Parganas, and the CPI(M) state secretary, Mr Saroj Mukherjee, two state secretariat members, Mr Buddhadev Bhat-tacharya and Mr Sallen Dasgupta.

According to informed sources, the state secretariat leaders observed that many CPI(M) candidates had lost the municipal polls in North 24-Parganas because of the activities of dissidents. They told the district leadership that in view of the forthcoming Assembly elections every effort should be made to "nip such dissident activities in the bud." They also pointed out that four party members had been expelled immediately before the municipal polls for contesting against official candidates but the step had failed to act as an eye-opener to the dissidents.

The CPI(M) leadership took serious note of how the feud between Mr Lakshman Bhat-tacharya, a North 24-Parganas CPI(M) district committee member, and Mr Ajit Ganguly, former chairman of the Baranagar municipality, had led to their own defeat in the elections, harming the image of the party. They also noted that Dr Dipak Sengupta, an independent candidate backed by Mr Bhat-tacharya, had won at the cost of Mr Ganguly's defeat.

/13046

CSO: 4600/1982

NEW MINISTERS INDUCTED INTO ORISSA CABINET

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 22 Jul 86 p 1

[Text]

BHUBANESWAR, July 21.

IN a sweeping move that caught political circles here virtually unaware, the chief minister, Mr. J. B. Patnaik, turned down one and a half-year-old council of ministers by indicating, several hours before the vote, that he would not support it.

This raises the total strength of the ministry to 22, excluding the chief minister, and sets at rest speculation over his probable replacement in the near future.

Five of the seven new ministers were sworn in by the governor, Mr. K. N. Pande, at a simple but crowded ceremony at Raj Bhawan. The other two were said to be out of town. The third minister, his ministerial and party colleagues, MLAs and officials, were absent.

In another significant and equally sudden development, the cabinet—now minister for commerce and transport and labour and employment, Mr. Anup Kumar Singh Deo, of Kharar in Kalahandi district, submitted his resignation from the council of ministers minutes before the swearing-in ceremony. (Later, the chief minister told newsmen that the resignation had been accepted).

The expansion was so rapid that the distribution and probable reshuffle

of portfolio could not be announced by the chief minister, who addressed the press soon after the opening-in. The portfolio would be announced later on Monday.

[illegible]

Mr. Nicholas Patank, of 55 Karthik Kavan, Mr. Mathab Ali and Mr. Hashbhai, Robert have been induced as cabinet (not ministers), Mr. Bhupinder Singh as a minister of state and Mrs. Parvati Devi and Mrs. Sarwan Singh as deputy minis

The detection of Mrs. Hamilton and Mrs. Fisher, across the strength of women power, so close, with Miss Erika Topp already in the covered as a minister of state for fishing and animal husbandry.

AITUC GENERAL COUNCIL HOLDS MADRAS SESSION

Resolutions Adopted

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 20 Jul 86 p 2

[Text]

Madras, July 19 — The All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) has given a call to observe 9 August as the national solidarity day against communal and divisive forces.

The general council of the AITUC which held its three-day session in Vandalur near Madras on 17, 18, 19 July expressed serious concern over the fast deteriorating situation in the country due to the increased activities of the forces of communalism, secessionism, religious fundamentalism, terrorism and linguistic chauvinism.

A resolution adopted at the session regretted that despite assurances and declarations, the Punjab Accord has not been implemented. It charged both the Central and State Governments with "failure to restore normalcy and peace in Punjab".

The resolution appealed to all the AITUC affiliated unions to send funds to Punjab State committee of AITUC "who are heroically fighting the terrorists and

maintaining Sikh-Hindu workers unity".

Briefing newsmen this evening its general secretary Indrajit Gupta, MP said that the union will observe "All India Day" on 9 September to defend public sector and the rights of its employees. The AITUC is also planning to hold an All India convention in the first week of October to highlight the same demand. The venue date are yet to be finalised, he added.

Mr Gupta charged that Government policy was dangerously drifting in the direction of denegation of the public sector and subordinating it to the interests of national and multinational monopolies.

In the name of efficiency and profitability a series of steps had been initiated by the Centre to scuttle the public sector and open it to the national and transnational monopolies.

He said steps were being taken to privatise the public sector in a number of ways. Financial struc-

ture of public sector undertakings was being opened to private investments in the form of debentures. This was only the thin edge of the wedge and would lead to increasing control of the private sector over the public sector.

UNI adds: Meanwhile in Bangalore INTUC president D Ramanujam demanded nationalisation of the entire banking industry.

He told newsmen that partial nationalisation could not provide the Government a firm monetary control. Banks in private sector could do more harm and total nationalisation was the only way to curb black money circulation.

He said the trade union movement was lopsided with labour organisations concentrating only on industrial belts and fighting for the betterment of workers in urban areas. There should be a concerned effort to create awareness among the unorganised sector and the rural poor, he said adding that INTUC had initiated such an awareness programme.

December Conference Planned

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 21 Jul 86 p 7

[Text] Madras, July 20 (UNI)--The next Conference of the All India Trade Union congress would be held at Baroda on December 15, the AITUC general secretary, Mr Indrajit Gupta, said here yesterday.

Talking to newsmen here, he said the congress, held once in three years, would be in session for four to five days.

Mr Gupta called upon the leadership of Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) to cooperate with his organisation on the basis of certain accepted programmes and principles.

Mr Gupta said the meeting demanded government takeover of all private sector banks, both Indian and foreign, immediately and also restructuring of the banking system.

He said bank credit to the big industrial houses should be drastically reduced so that these scarce resources were made available to the poor and weaker sections of the people.

He said banks should be freed from "misuse" for narrow partisan political ends and must be made effective instruments to accelerate socio-economic growth consistent with the objectives of bank nationalisation and a self-reliant economy.

Mr Gupta said the system had miserably failed to make any noticeable dent in the growing poverty in the country.

On the other hand, big bank scandals involving crores of rupees were being increasingly unearthed.

More than Rs 200 crores were being written off every year or treated as bad and doubtful debts, endangering the very viability of the banking system.

Mr Gupta said the general council strongly protested against the "arbitrary" manner in which the basic demand of the Central government employees for wage parity with public sector workers was rejected by the fourth pay commission.

This would not only perpetuate the existing disparity at the lowest level but would further widen the gap after new wage agreements were reached in the public sector by the end of this year, he said.

/9317

CSO: 4600/1011

REMOTE SENSING SATELLITE FLIGHT MODEL COMPLETED

Madras THE HINDU in English 23 Jul 86 p 9

[Text]

BANGALORE, July 22.

The Chairman of the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bangalore, Air Marshal M. S. D. Wollen (Retd.), today handed over the flight model of the Indian remote sensing satellite structure to Prof. U. R. Rao, Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation.

The flight model structure entirely manufactured in the Bangalore HAL complex to stringent aerospace specifications, represents one more achievement in the annals of HAL and ISRO cooperation. It is fabricated using honey comb bonded panels and high precision components.

The Indian remote sensing satellite is a three axis stabilised polar sun synchronous satellite which will be injected in a polar orbit, at a height of about 900 km above earth. It will be mainly utilised for survey and management of resources in agriculture, geology and hydrology.

Mr. I. M. Chopra, Managing Director, HAL Bangalore complex, in his welcome speech, outlined the activities of the HAL in the space programme and highlighted the setting up in the HAL of a dedicated facility for the manufacture of light alloy structures and liquid propellant tanks for polar satellite launch with a capital outlay of Rs. 23 crores. The facility will render assistance in manufacturing and testing of the PSLV light alloy structures.

Air Marshal M. S. D. Wollen (Retd) in his address congratulated the staff of the HAL and ISRO and noted that the working relationship between these two organisations has been excellent.

Dr. U. R. Rao said with the successful completion of the IRS flight model structure, an important milestone in the IRS programme has been completed.

Prof. K. Balaraman, Managing Director, design and development complex, proposed a vote of thanks.

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CSO: 4600/1984

INCREASED REFUGEE STREAM AS WAR BECOMES MORE UNPOPULAR

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 28 Jul 86 p 29

[Article by Christer Berglund: "Flow of Iranian Refugees Increases Again--War Stands Between Them and Their Future"; first paragraph is DAGENS NYHETER introduction]

[Text] It is a remarkable charter trip passing through the fair Swedish summer countryside. The bus is full of young Iranians with one single thought on their minds: to escape from the war against Iraq, which is becoming all the more difficult to hide from.

More and more are trying to get out of Iran, and this is only one third of the more than 150 Iranians who arrive each week at Arlanda. They are now being taken by bus to temporary quarters at a former hospital at Sövsjö.

At the hotel at Alvik in Stockholm a 33-year-old deserter from Tehran walks out. He relates how he left his wife and a five-year-old son.

"I could stay no longer. They grab people on the street. I left when they told me that I must be taken to the battlefield.

"That was three weeks ago. I sold my car and everything in my home. My son and wife have moved in with her parents. I hope they can come here later."

False Papers

From a contact in Tehran he acquired false papers to come to Sweden via Dubai in the United Arab Emirates. He says it cost him nearly 30,000 kronor.

Of course not everyone can afford that. And he asked me to tell the Swedish government that they should make it cheaper to come to Sweden. He said he tried to get a visa at the Swedish Embassy but was not successful.

The pressure on Iranian men appears to increase in step with the need for war manpower. And everything now indicates that the regime of Ayatollah Khomeini is carrying out a mass mobilization to reach a decisive point in the war against Iraq. In that case it would explain the latest increase in Iranian refugees to Sweden and other places.

According to the 33-year-old deserter, about a month ago a special group began to operate on the streets to take those who are not already in the Army.

This agrees with information in the latest number of the British newspaper JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY. According to that paper, 1,000 new battalions are being established within the revolutionary guard, each one consisting of 350 men. An attempt to mobilize 350,000 men would naturally have an effect on the flow of refugees. The information also agrees with the difficult economic situation in Iran, and the need to put a quick end to the war.

The result has been that the flow of refugees to Arlanda has doubled from June to July. The Arlanda Police now estimate over 600 Iranians arrived in July.

Their Own Cases

The refugees talk about their own cases when they speak of why they came here. Most came without a passport or other papers and could have come from a country which does not have a refugee status.

But they are well informed as to what they should say. Being called to war service is, for example, a reason for being considered a refugee. It is a part of the problem which Swedish authorities have to investigate.

"What they are saying is true. You see, most of those here are under 30-years-old and should have a future in Iran. But the war stands between them and the future," said the 33-year-old.

Young and Neat

It is a group of neat young men who arrive in the refugee bus at a counter just outside of Linköping to eat lunch. Some go to the pay-telephone to contact friends or relatives out in the countryside.

One problem that group leaders have to deal with is that many of them want to arrange their own stay in Sweden. Either with a countryman who lives here, or at a group home where they have some friends.

But this trip takes place without any incidents. Only four have disappeared and they were already gone at the time of departure from the hotel in Stockholm.

Otherwise it looks like any ordinary charter bus. If they had been pensioners or gardeners on an outing they would have resembled a TV commercial.

Now there is a strange feeling when disk jockey Clabbe of Geijerstam brings on his offering of pop music between the ads and ski pictures. On top of everything else he offers the bus riders a chance to win a ski trip to the mountains.

But it is of course the music which interests the young Iranians. They have their own cassettes with the popular Iranian singer Daryoush.

Back in the bus there was a family with two children who decided to stay here for good, and are not unfamiliar with ski trips. They are also the only ones with passports and visas from Iran, but the visas were for Romania, and they wanted to come to Sweden.

"We lived under pressure, political and social. It was sometimes dangerous. I was an opponent of the government on many questions," said the man, who was an academic, educated in the West.

When their home was bombed they decided to leave the country, just as some of their relatives had already done.

"The bombings are becoming more alarming. I want the International Red Cross to know what is happening. The Iranian regime has begun to store ammunition in dwelling areas.

"In our town there was an ammunition storage five meters from the children's school. The guards said that blankets were stored there. But then why did it have locks and guards around the clock?"

Learning Swedish

Like many of the others he hoped to learn Swedish and get a job in Sweden. But on arrival in Savsjo a certain disappointment was noted when they learned that they were to wait here before going to an ordinary camp. They will get food and clothing but no education, and it will be at least a month before they come to a so-called investigation camp where their fate will be determined.

A young boy on crutches said that he is not satisfied to get money and necessities--he wants to work. Iranians who arrived earlier have adapted to the arrangements here, and on the outskirts of Savsjo several of them have formed two teams to play football.

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CSO:3650/283

POLITICAL ASPECTS OF LAW, ORDER PROBLEM IN SINDH EXAMINED

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 14 Jun 86 pp 3, 5

[Article by Anwar Qidwai: "The Danger to Peace and Security in Sindh's Four Districts"]

[Text] The situation in Sindh is very serious at this time. All four districts in the province--Khairpur, Larkana, Nawabshah, and Daud--are infested with dacoits who loot, murder, and kidnap at will. Dacoits have been active in Sindh for a long time, but they have become extremely bold since 1983 when the MRD movement appeared. Their sphere of activity, hitherto limited to the jungle, is widespread now. This has resulted in a feeling of insecurity among the people. The dacoits loot and kidnap people in broad daylight, releasing the victims after collecting a ransom. Mian Tufail Mohammad of Jamaat-e Islami has revealed that the government has paid over 200 million rupees to dacoits to gain the release of government officials. The police are helpless; the dacoits are so bold that they even attack police and take their weapons! Several police officers have lost their lives in such skirmishes. A few days ago, the dacoits killed five policemen and made away with their weapons and ammunition. One reason for the police ineffectiveness is the old weapons the police carry compared to the modern weapons of the dacoits. The other reason is that the dacoits have made their home in deep jungles which form an impregnable fortress. It is almost impossible to find and fight them there.

All four districts of Sindh--Khairpur, Nawabshah, Larkana, and Daud--are affected by dacoit activities. The deep jungles of Sindh on the banks of the River Sindh are spread through these districts for about 30,000 acres. The headquarters of the Chandew and Khushak Brother gangs occupy each bank. They operate from these banks and are rumored to have the support of influential persons in the area. These people belong to some of the MRD parties and are top leaders in the area. Thus, they are using these dacoits for political gain. At the time of the MRD movement, we revealed that dacoits had gotten to the politicians and were forcing people to display the PPP flag in front of their homes. Big landlords belonging to the PPP joined this movement and are still supporting the dacoits. These landlords act as brokers when the dacoits kidnap someone and demand ransom.

It is said that plans were made to cut down these jungles and start forests there, but were never implemented. Some 10 or 15 years ago, complete plans

were drawn up and were to be implemented in phases. The plan was to divide the jungle into four parts, and then to clear one part and plant poplar trees. An equal area was to be covered with mulberry trees in the second phase. The areas right next to the river were to be cleared totally. Pir Pagara, the former president of the Muslim League, supported this plan and wanted to clear the jungles on both banks of the Sindh.

The present government of Sindh has decided to take immediate action against the dacoits. It has requested the help of the rangers and the army to clear these four districts of dacoits. The plan is to move all the residents out of the jungles and then have the army surround them and capture all the dacoits. It has been learned that the Sindh government is also investigating the landlords and influential people who are helping these dacoits. It is expected that strict action will be taken against them. At present Gohar Ali Chandew of the Chandew gang is very active on the right bank and Khushak Brother and Wazir are leading on the left bank of the Sindh. A retired Sindh police officer told us that the dacoits have recruited many hardcore criminals to their gangs at a salary of 10,000 rupees a month and assurance of payment of 100,000 rupees to their dependents if they should die in action. This retired police officer said that it was very important to identify all the dacoits since not all of them live in the jungles.

If the government of the Sindh succeeds in capturing the dacoits, it will help discourage those who use the dacoits for political gain. The slogans of confederation, territorialism, and Sindhudesh are not new in Sindh. One political faction in Sindh has been talking about such things for a long time, although they were quiet during the 9 years of martial law. Recently, when Surakhposh leader Ghuffar Khan attended a birthday party for G.M. Sayed, anti-Pakistan slogans were heard there. No one stopped these traitors, and now, fanatic Sindh youth are also raising emotional slogans. Talk of a separate state is common. This is deplorable but not very dangerous. People who compare Sindh with East Pakistan forget that there is a difference of 16 years and that most of the native Sindhis do not support separatist views or those who talk against Pakistan. It is also true that the MRD movement in Sindh was not organized at the grassroots level, and when the leaders of the movement were arrested, the people did not react as they would have if it had been a popular movement. Thus, the movement died a natural death.

We cannot call Mir Talpur's struggle against the British or the Haron movement a people's movement. In the 19th century, Talpur was the Sindh ruler at the time the British took over in 1843. Talpur fought hard against the British, but he lost. Similarly, when Sayed Allah Shah Rashidi Pir Sahib Pagara was arrested while campaigning against the British, the Harons rebelled. One part of the Sindh was put under martial law at that time. The Haron movement was against the British, but not all Sindhis were involved in it. That is why the British were able to kill Pir Pagara and succeeded in suppressing the uprising. G.M. Sayed and his cohorts have been crying over Sindh's deprivations and talking against Punjab. Their voices, however, have not carried outside of their own group. During this period, Abraham Joyo and Sheikh Ayaz started talking about Sindhudesh and made the deplorable

attempt to make Raja Dahir a Sindh hero. G.M. Sayed has written a book which includes anti-Islamic material. The Jamaat-e Islami and several other Pakistani groups published books in protest and observed important Islamic days with large attendance. Even now, G.M. Sayed, Mumtaz Bhutto, Hamida Khouro, Sayed Ghulam Mustafa Shah, Rasul Bax Palejo and their associates try to blame Punjab for Sindh's deprivations. Sindh is an important province of Pakistan and its residents are Muslims and Pakistanis. Hyderabad is a city that welcomed the refugees and established a colony for them even before they arrived. It was Sindh's strong Islamic feelings that helped a large number of refugees to settle down in this province. The refugees from Punjab [India] changed the Bairaaj area into fertile land.

Today seeds of hatred are being sown in this very land. A religious group, the Jamiat-e Ulema-e Islam (Fazalur Rehman group) is very active in this effort. Maulana Saraj Din Puri, president of Jamiat-e Ulema-e Islam, has gone so far as to join the PPP openly. Maulana Mohammad Amroti followers are talking about provincial independence. However, Jamiat-e Ulema-e Pakistan (JUP) is much more influential in Sindh and rebuts the JUI's slogans. Jamaat-e Islami has also some influence and provides help to the problems in Sindh. However, if the old "all is well" attitude continues, then the situation will deteriorate. We should mention in this context that Khawaja Mohammad Safaddar, a state legislative assembly member, proposed the establishment of an "authoritative commission." Attention should be given to this proposal, and the government should make solving Sindh's problems a top priority. The Sindh government has for the first time decided to take serious steps to control the dacoit problem. It is a welcome change. The government should focus its attention on other problems, too. It is the responsibility of the central government to solve the real problems in Sindh, NWFP, and Punjab.

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Sept 25, 1986